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ABINGDON EDITION

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KEEP UP THE MOMENTUM

• *Nicola Blackwood and Greg Barker (right) at the Abingdon Hydro site*

Abingdon hailed as "wonderful" in quest for green energy resources

By James Booker
jamesb@taylornewspapers.co.uk

ABINGDON Hydro is a "wonderful example of a combination of local innovation and community cohesion".

That's the view of Nicola Blackwood, MP for Oxford West and Abingdon, as she welcomed a government minister to the region.

Greg Barker MP, minister for Climate Change, visited the site of the proposed project on Tuesday.

The minister hailed the area as being at "the heart of the drive to a low carbon economy".

Ms Blackwood and Mr Barker met with the Abingdon Hydro project secretary, Richard Riggs, and other members of the Hydro team.

Abingdon Hydro received planning permission from Vale of White Horse District Council last month and is now seeking to attract sponsorship and future investment.

Ms Blackwood, who also recently welcomed secretary of state for Climate Change Ed Davey to the site, said: "I was delighted to welcome the minister to the constituency again.

"We are justly proud of our commitment and contribution to the low carbon energy sector.

"Abingdon Hydro is a wonderful example of this combination of local innovation and community cohesion - we must keep the momentum going."

Mr Barker added: "The combination of world class [research and development] and innovation as well as the clear commitment of the local community is a powerful combination."

During his visit to Oxfordshire, Mr Barker also took in Oxford Photovoltaics' headquarters to launch new facilities at the site earlier this week.

The company, based at Begbroke Science Park, has unveiled new fabrication and test facilities, including a fully equipped cleanroom for cutting edge solar technology.

Mr Barker said: "Oxford Photovoltaics' new research and testing facility is putting the UK at the forefront of the international market for solar, providing state of the art resources to test a pioneering approach to harnessing the power of the sun and putting us in pole position to compete in the global race for jobs and growth."

"This was an ideal opportunity to demonstrate for the minister exactly why Oxford University continues to lead the world in solar PV generation," said Ms Blackwood.

"The new Photovoltaics lab will not only support further groundbreaking research in the production of solar technology, but will also create new jobs in the University itself."

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The Oxfordshire Guardian Series is published by Taylor Newspapers Ltd.

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Oxfordshire's aid to the Philippines

By **Jack Johnson**
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ANOTHER aircraft that can carry the equivalent of eight double-decker buses left RAF Brize Norton last week to provide urgent humanitarian support for people in the Philippines.

Up to 800,000 people in the Philippines are in need of resources in the wake of Typhoon Haiyan and flights have been delivering huge quantities of aid, vehicles and heavyweight machinery to critical flood hit areas.

The C-17s, which can carry up to 100 tonnes of freight, are operated by the 99 Squadron at RAF Brize Norton in Carterton and have been able to deliver 4x4s, forklift trucks, water purification kits, tents, solar fridges and cutting equipment to the heart of the crisis.

Wing Commander Stuart Lindsell says the squadron are always "delighted" to respond.

"Outsize cargo and short-notice tasking are the norm for 99 Squadron," said Wg Cdr Lindsell.

"When the call comes in we're delighted to respond to it knowing that our equipment is some of the best in the world.

"The speed and reach of the C-17 aircraft and the fact that it can carry large cargo such as JCBs means it's a really versatile and usable aircraft.

"When we're called to help in an emergency like this it's amazing to see the response of the squadron, there's no shortage of volunteers."

Last Friday, 16 solar fridges which are used to store medicines, one Land Rover, 2,000 bales of rope, 72 camp beds and six tents were delivered to the Philippines.

Philip Dunne, minister for Defence Equipment, Support and Technology, added that the RAF "has a proud history of delivering UK support to humanitarian missions around the world".

"In the last few years its C-17 have delivered vital relief efforts to victims of the Pakistan floods, Chilean earthquake and Japanese tsunami and is now providing excellent support in the Philippines," Mr Dunne said.

"The RAF is the only air force in Europe with its own fleet of these powerful, versatile aircraft.

"The C-17's strengths lie in its abilities to operate in even the most difficult environments, land safely on even the shortest runway and carry large and heavy equipment and life-saving supplies rapidly across the world wherever they are needed."

• *A C-17 is loaded up before delivering humanitarian aid to the Philippines (Picture courtesy of the Ministry of Defence)*

The fleet have supported disasters such as the submarine rescue in Russia (2005), flooding in Pakistan and the earthquake in Chile in 2010 and the tsunami in Japan in 2011.

Deddington crash man named

A MAN who was killed in a traffic collision in a north Oxfordshire village on November 21 has been named.

Keith Anderson, aged 72, from Deddington, near Banbury, was the passenger in a Toyota Prius which collided with two other vehicles on the A361 Bloxham Road at about 4.50pm.

Mr Anderson's family have left a tribute, saying he was a "true delight".

The statement reads: "Keith was a true gentleman, a wonderful husband, loving father and an exceptional grandad and his loss has left his wife, Anne, and his family devastated.

"He was a true delight to know and will be sadly missed by his friends from bowling, the rugby touchline, the Deddington community and the many friends he has made throughout his life."

Anyone with any information on the collision is asked to contact Sgt Kelly Hobson or PC Alan Turnbull on 101, quoting URN 998 of 21/11.

Iffley hotel raises over £2k for a school in Wheatley

A HOTEL in Iffley has helped raise over £2,300 for a school in Wheatley.

The Tree Hotel chose the John Watson School as their charity for the year because they wanted to help and be involved with local children.

Managing Director Kavita Pal recently visited the school to hold a Diwali assembly, celebrating the Indian festival with students.

She said: "Every time I visit the John Watson School I am touched by how much the children really enjoy going to school.

"But it's a hard time for educators and the more money we can raise the more it can help the children."

Tree Hotel staff will be at this year's Oxford Christmas Market (December 13-22) where they will have a food stall offering mulled cider and a variety of Indian winter meals.

Arctic 30 protestor is released

Over 100 turn out for Shell protests

AN OXFORD man became the 29th member of the Arctic 30 to be freed from a Russian prison earlier this week.

Phil Ball was released from detention in St Petersburg on Monday with only Australian Colin Russell remaining behind bars as the Guardian went to print.

Twenty-eight Greenpeace activists and two journalists were held in prison after their part in a peaceful protest at an Arctic oil platform in September.

They were demanding that Shell pull out from their planned joint venture of Arctic drilling with Russian company Gazprom.

Last week the Guardian reported how Greenpeace protestors held a quiet vigil outside the Shell petrol station on London Road, Oxford, organised by Phil's brother Steve.

The latter said of his brother's release: "It's absolutely brilliant news.

"After two months in jail he could have done without another weekend behind bars, but it's a great relief to know he's finally out and able to talk to his friends and colleagues."

However, Arctic campaigner Ben Ayliffe at Greenpeace International added: "This is not over yet and none of us will be truly happy until all of the Arctic 30 have been released."

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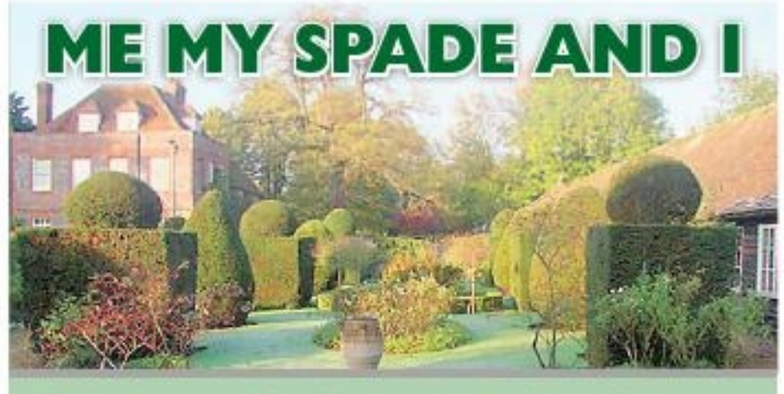

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Cheers! Mayor pulls the first pint as hotel opens

• Abingdon Mayor, Cllr Samantha Bowring pulls the premises' first pint under the watchful eye of general manager Cian McMonagle Inset; Cllr Bowring and Mr McMonagle with Abingdon Town Crier Penny Clover

HUNDREDS of people gathered for the official opening of an Abingdon bar and hotel this week.

Abingdon's Mayor, Councillor Samantha Bowring, became the first person to pull a pint at the bar at the launch on Tuesday night.

The hotel was opened to the public as of yesterday.

Owners Oakman Inns have spent nearly £2million on improvements to the Bridge Street premises, which have been closed since June.

The new-look hotel has 18 bedrooms, a bar, café and restaurant.

And Abingdon's Deputy Mayor, Cllr Angela Lawrence, supported by Town Crier, Penny Clover, welcomed the new owners of The Crown and Thistle to the town.

By James Booker
jamesb@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Cllr Lawrence said: "It's great to see that The Crown and Thistle will once again be at the centre of local life and a jewel in Abingdon's crown."

Peter Borg-Neal, the CEO of Oakman Inns & Restaurants, thanked his 'amazing team' of architects, designers, building contractors, project managers and The Crown & Thistle's team of over 60 staff.

After 8pm, the bars opened and half the bar takings were donated to Oxford-based children's charity, Helen and Douglas House.

A total of £675 was raised by a raffle, with bar sales totalling £721.40.

Five hospitalised after A34 traffic nightmare

DRIVERS faced a nightmare on the roads earlier this week after an accident on the A34 caused tailbacks across the district.

During the early hours of Tuesday morning two HGV's were involved in an incident which caused the closure of the northbound carriageway of the A34.

Five people are believed to have been taken to the John Radcliffe Hospital following the incident.

The accident happened between the A4130, Milton, and A415, Abingdon, closing the carriageway for 11 hours.

This caused mayhem in Abingdon and its neighbouring towns.

After clearing the vehicles, the carriageway was reopened just before 3.30pm.

However, shortly after, there was an incident on the southbound carriageway at the Milton Interchange.

This caused tailbacks on the A34 towards Didcot.

News Bites

Man killed

A MAN from Abingdon was killed in a collision with a lorry in Nettlebed on November 21.

At 6.26am, a lorry and a Porsche collided on the A4130. The man, who was in his fifties, died at the scene.

The driver of the lorry, a 59-year-old man from Kent, was arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving and is currently in police custody.

School theft

A LARGE quantity of computers were stolen in a burglary at Abingdon School last week.

Between 2am and 5.20am on November 20, the school in Park Road was broken into.

Offenders gained entry through a side gate in Park Crescent and forced a window open to rooms containing IT equipment.

Apple iMac desktops, laptops and iPads were stolen.

Thames Valley Police would like to speak to anyone who saw anything suspicious or have been offered any of the products recently.

Officers believe a large vehicle would have been required to take the items away.

Contact PC Mark Allmond on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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Charity evening to raise funds for rape victims

TWO Summertown businesses are set to join forces this evening in an attempt to raise vital funds for a local women's charity.

Cannelle Beauty on Oakthorpe Road and Cara on Banbury Road are raising money for Oxford Sexual Abuse & Rape Crisis Centre (OSARCC) by holding an evening fusion of beauty and fashion.

Guests will be offered complimentary manicures, make up and personal stylist expertise in order to raise much needed funds for the volunteer led organisation which offers specialist services for women and girls who have experienced any form of sexual violence.

France Baudet, owner of Cannelle, said: "Christmas is an important time of year for all the small businesses in Summertown in terms of turnover.

"But we should recognise that whilst everyone races about buying presents, clothes and getting ready for Christmas parties many women are suffering in silence because of dreadful experiences of sexual and domestic abuse.

"We feel that we should use the Christmas shopping enthusiasm to raise money for this very important charity."

Other Summertown businesses are doing their bit as Lebanese delicatessen 'LBs' has offered a tray of sweet treats, Gatineau Patisseries will be providing petits fours and the Oxford Wine Cafe are donating a crate of wine.

Natalie Brook, service manager for OSARCC, added: "We are so pleased that these two businesses, whose clients are primarily female, have chosen to highlight our charity which aims to help women and girls suffering move on from devastating experiences of sexual violence.

"As a small charity we are fighting for funds all the time and when local businesses come together to help like this it really does keep our services going."

A grand prize draw will be held at tonight's event with a £400 hamper full of skincare products, treatment and gift vouchers and accessories.

Tickets are on sale for £5 at Cannelle beauty salon and Cara while the event begins at 5.30pm at the latter.

By **Jack Johnson**
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Brookes graduate's HIV charity appeal

• *Joel Wallington*

A CHARITY founded by an Oxford Brookes graduate is launching a campaign raising awareness of the global HIV epidemic.

Joel Wallington (pictured) aged 25, is working towards seeing zero AIDS-related deaths worldwide and is holding an evening of music to celebrate his new campaign.

As well as music from My Good Man William, short films will also be shown to raise awareness.

Joel said: "I believe my generation holds the greatest potential to finally see an end to the devastation and destruction AIDS has on communities around the world.

"We want to help them realise this potential and mobilise them into action."

Chasing Zero's new campaign focuses on providing access to this treatment for pregnant women living with HIV in rural parts of Malawi.

Joel added: "We are living in a time that really could be the beginning of the end of AIDS, but we must act now.

"Through our project in Malawi, Chasing Zero is seeing children born HIV free and their mothers kept alive and healthy. We are so thankful to people in the UK who are making this possible, but we still have a long way to go."

The event is taking place at 7.30pm on December 5 at Cafe Tarifa on the Cowley Road.

News Bites

Drug offence

A 57-year-old woman from Peat Moors will appear at Croydon Crown Court on December 4, charged with the attempted importation of cannabis.

Border force officers at Gatwick Airport stopped the woman on November 19 after she had arrived on a flight from Kingston, Jamaica. Officers searched luggage and discovered taped packages of approximately 20kilos of cannabis, with an estimated street value of £60,000, in a suitcase.

Centres close

ALL of Oxfordshire County Council's Household Waste Recycling Centres will close early during the festive period.

Centres will shut at 3pm on December 24 and 31 and will be closed all day on December 25, 26 and January 1.

On all other days they will be open as usual between 8am and 5pm.

Rape charge

A 26-year-old man has been charged in relation to raping a woman in Cowley Road in December 2011.

He was arrested on November 23 and was charged with one count of rape a day later.

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It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

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Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service Oxfordshire from their local depots and Josh is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truthis that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Josh a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

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News Bites

Dog attack

A 55-year-old woman was bitten by a dog in Dorchester on November 20 as she walked along a footpath in Dykes Hills.

She was walking along the footpath towards Days Lock when she saw two women who had six dogs between them.

As she walked past, one of the dogs, believed to be a red/brown Vizsla or Weimaraner, grabbed the victims wrist which has been left bruised with a tear of skin.

If you have any information, contact PC Alison Allum on 101.

Church damage

THE confession box at St Peters Church in Eynsham has been damaged.

Between 9am and 4pm on November 19, an offender kicked the metal grill seperating the two rooms.

Contact PC Lisa Chapman on 101.

Laptop stolen

POLICE are appealing for witnesses after a laptop was stolen from a house in Bicester.

Between 5pm on November 21 and 1am on November 22, offenders gained entry to a property in Fieldfare Close and stole the item.

'Barriers did not cause tragedies'

By Jack Johnson
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

• *Sandy Lane level crossing and (inset) Hugh Jaeger*

A RAILFUTURE Thames Valley spokesperson believes the half barriers in operation at the Sandy Lane level crossing are not to blame for two collisions at the site this year.

This comes after last week's inquest into the death of a man on the crossing near Yarnton back in January.

The crossing was deemed to be working perfectly but the Thames Valley branch of Railfuture says Network Rail now need to reappraise level crossings that lack equipment to check they are clear before a train can approach.

On January 3 this year, Malcolm Kimberley's car stalled on Sandy Lane level crossing with his elderly partner Thomas Pizzey in his wheelchair in the back of the vehicle.

Mr Kimberley tried unsuccessfully to restart the car and other road users ran to try to help but a CrossCountry express struck the car, killing Mr Pizzey and seriously injuring Mr Kimberley.

Railfuture Thames Valley spokesman Hugh Jaeger said: "Sandy Lane level crossing has automatic half barriers.

"This is a 1960s idea designed to give road users an escape route in case they or their vehicle were stuck on a level crossing.

"But this works only if all the road users involved are able-bodied enough to leave their vehicle promptly and make their way to safety.

"Half barriers were no help to an 85-year old wheelchair occupant in a stalled car."

On November 12, a woman tried to kill herself by stopping her car on the very same crossing.

A CrossCountry express hit her car but she survived and has now been detained under the Mental Health Act.

Mr Jaeger added: "Half barriers did not cause either of these collisions.

"The real hazard is there is nothing to tell signal operators whether a crossing is clear for the train to approach.

"Full-barrier level crossings have CCTV monitors so that signal staff can see if there is an obstruction.

"Reliable CCTV or other detection cannot prevent every level crossing collision.

"But it could have given enough warning to prevent the two collisions at Sandy Lane this year."

Christmas in Wallingford

IT'S Wallingford's turn to get into the festive spirit as the annual Christmas Festival takes place this Sunday.

Two live stages will provide entertainment throughout the day, market stalls will be filled with Christmas treats and even more shops and local businesses will be open.

Raffle tickets, priced at £1 each or £5 for a book of five, are currently on sale with a host of great prizes on offer.

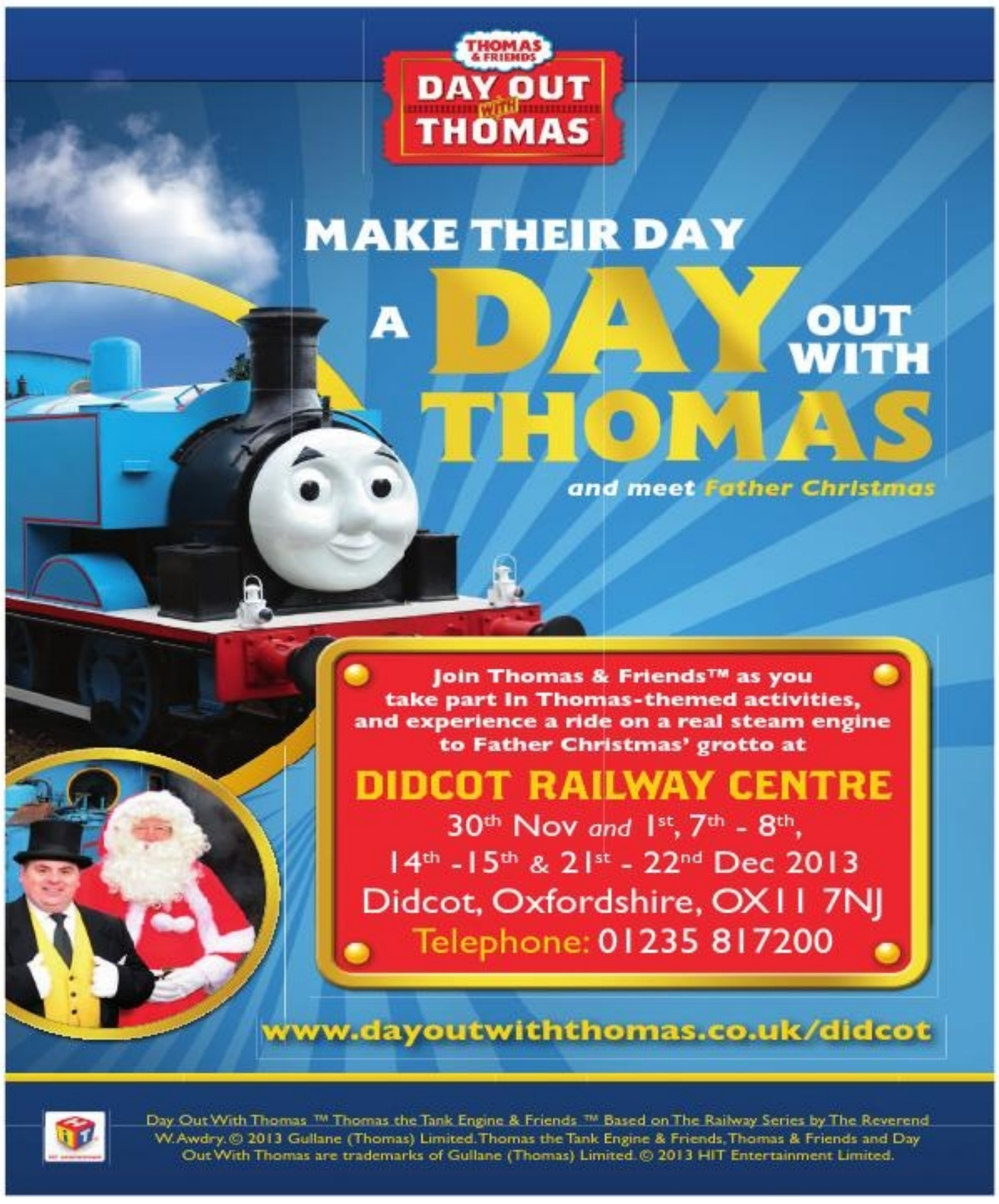
First prize is a £120 bicycle from Rides on Air, while other prizes include a £100 photo portrait including a frame from More than Images, a meal for two at The Old Post Office, a £50 Petits voucher and a 'Charlie Bear' from K P Stationers.

Tickets are on sale from retailers K P Stationers, The Dolphin Publication, Sibo's Hairdressers, Down to Earth, The Wallingford Bookshop and First Edition.

Forty stalls selling food and gifts are said to be booked in for the day while there will be plenty for children to do including an Activity Play Bus, face painting, treasure hunt, fairground rides and much more.

And of course, the festival would not be complete without Santa's Parade and his grotto.

The 'Christmas Countdown' will begin at 5pm followed by the switching on of the lights and a spectacular firework display.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News Bites

Broken in

A HOUSE in Somerville Drive, Bicester, was burgled on November 22.

Offenders broke in between 6.45pm and 9.01pm, carrying out an untidy search but no items were stolen.

Briefcase theft

POLICE are appealing for witnesses after a burglary in Chinnor.

Between 7am on October 15 and 1pm on October 16, offenders gained entry to a house in Millers Turn by smashing the rear patio window before stealing a briefcase and all its contents.

£9,000 fraud

A WOMAN from Oxford has been handed a suspended 12 week sentence after dishonestly claiming over £9,000 in benefits.

Penny Smith, aged 46, of Pike Terrace, pleaded guilty to dishonestly obtaining a total of £9,075.33 of Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit and Income Support between July 2011 and February 2013.

She was sentenced to 12 weeks custody suspended for 12 months, ordered to obey a three month curfew between the hours of 6pm and 6am and to pay £350 costs.

Illustrator wants best budding young artists

By Jack Johnson
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

A CHILDREN'S book illustrator from Oxford has launched a nationwide search to find the next generation of budding young artists.

Korky Paul, best known for illustrating the Winnie the Witch series, is looking for two young 'Sketching Stars', aged between five and 11.

The lucky winners will receive expert advice and guidance from Mr Paul at bespoke illustration workshops, available exclusively to them and their classmates.

Starting in December, the campaign will run in classrooms across the country, helping teachers facilitate learning through sketching.

Mr Paul, who has been illustrating picture books for almost 30 years, says there is no better way of processing ideas than picking up a pencil.

"Drawing is a wonderful way of viewing and thinking about the world with your hand, and of communicating your thoughts, ideas and stories," he said.

"Artistic talent is a rare gift and one that must be nurtured from a young age.

• *Korky Paul is searching for the next generation of budding young artists*

"I was lucky enough to discover that and have since managed to forge a successful career from illustrating.

"Now I'm hoping to encourage the talented artists and illustrators of the future to recognise their skill and understand its full potential.

"I can't wait to see the entries and look forward to unearthing the huge amount of talent in classrooms across the country."

The Zimbabwean-born illustrator has teamed up with the Sketching Stars initiative, led by Staedtler Teachers' Club UK, for the competition.

Its aim is to help primary school children to explore their creative side while moulding them into the next generation of artists and illustrators.

The competition is open to schools until February 4 next year.

To enter visit www.teacherclub.staedtler.co.uk.

Councillor's Column

Cllr Bob Price
Leader of Oxford City Council

Spreading the festive cheer

Over 100,000 people enjoyed the Christmas Market and Fair in St Giles this past weekend – the city's first three day Christmas Light Festival.

Everyone who saw this year's parade agreed that the lanterns were the most striking and beautifully produced that we have seen since the parade first took place.

The themes for the Lantern Parade this year were the centenary of car making at Cowley in the shape of William Morris' Marvellous machines and C.S.Lewis' stories.

St Giles was full of people all weekend, enjoying the huge range of Christmas market stalls, selling everything from Christmas decorations to mulled cider, and beautiful bags to Hook Norton beer! St Giles was also the location for a superb Stage, with dance and music performances on all three evenings.

The city centre was literally buzzing, and with over 5,000 visitors to the Folk Evening at the Ashmolean and over 2,000 to the Rainforest Soundscapes at the Pitt Rivers, many venues were up to full capacity.

Moving up a gear from Christmas Light Night to a three day festival to usher in the Christmas and Advent period was only possible because of the generous sponsorship of many partners. The aim of giving more people from the city, as well as our many visitors, the opportunity to enjoy a truly vibrant start to the festive season was well and truly achieved.

I hope everyone who came along enjoyed the Festival – look out for even more cultural events on the city council website in the lead up to Christmas and the New Year.

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Oxford bathes in sea of festive celebrations...

By Jack Johnson
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

THE countdown to Christmas has begun and the city was certainly in the festive spirit last weekend.

Oxford's Christmas Light Festival attracted thousands to the city across what turned out to be a three-day extravaganza.

Last Friday evening celebrated the return of the Light Night Lantern Parade as 500 children and young people illuminated the streets with handmade lanterns.

There was also music as some of the county's most talented musicians and dancers performed on the St Giles stage.

A day later, there was various free arts activities and events at venues such as Oxford Castle, Pitt Rivers Museum and The North Wall Arts Centre.

Last Sunday was marked as a Day of Song with choirs performing on the St Giles stage and at other locations across the city.

Oxford United players James Constable, Johnny Mullins and Scott Davies joined the Christmas Choir to mark the end of the weekend while there was plenty of hot food, drink and unique gifts on offer at the city's market.

• *Oxford's Christmas lights festival*

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News Bites

Man guilty

A 22-year-old man from Oxford has been found guilty of possession of crack cocaine with intent to supply.

Theodore Tyrell, of Barns Road, Oxford, had 4.60g of crack cocaine, valued at around £380, along with £475 in cash. Tyrell's claim that the drugs had been planted by police officers, was dismissed by the jury. He will be sentenced on December 19.

Tree-mendous

TREE planting events are taking place tomorrow and Saturday to celebrate National Tree Week.

Events are taking place in Cutteslowe Park tomorrow between 2pm and 4pm with Low Carbon Oxford North and Cutteslowe Primary School.

On Saturday, Rose Hill and Iffley Low Carbon will be at Rose Hill Recreation Ground from 11am until 2pm.

Wonderland

THE Barton Christmas Wonderland is taking place on December 8 between 5pm and 8pm at the neighbourhood centre.

There will be an Aladdin pantomime, activities and games, Christmas tombola and raffle.

Student group in £20,000 mission

By Jack Johnson
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

A STUDENT group has joined forces with societies and clubs from Oxford University in a mission to raise more than £20,000 for charity.

The Oxford committee of Giving What We Can, an international society dedicated to eliminating poverty in the developing world, have raised £6,000 so far for Against Malaria Foundation (AMF).

The campaign is set to run until the end of term and any donations made will be matched by the committee.

Giving What We Can: Oxford has enough funding to match donations up to £10,000 and raising £20,000 in total would be enough to buy over 10,000 malaria nets.

Other societies contributing to the campaign are The Oxford Guild, CapitOx, St John's College Boat Club, Magdalen Film Society, Wadham Students Union, Oxford University Labour Club, The Oxford Student and Oxford Philosophy, Politics and Economics Society.

• *(From left to right) Giving What We Can: Oxford members Thomas Ough, Jen Brennan, Chloe Kane, Carolina Flores, Ed Higson, Josh Goldenberg, Max Dalton and Fran Day*

Max Dalton, vice-president of Giving What We Can: Oxford, who studies Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Balliol College, said Against Malaria Foundation was chosen as the charity because "it is one of the most effective in the world".

He added: "They can deliver a malaria net for just £2. That means that if anybody donates just £1 that will save two people from Malaria for three years.

"We chose the Against Malaria Foundation because that charity in particular has a massive impact."

Mr Dalton donates 10 per cent of his income from part-time work at Balliol College to charity and he added: "I have been doing this for the past year and it has made my life feel more worth while.

"Giving What We Can recommends to its members that they give 10 per cent of their income to charity and that can have really big impacts especially if you are giving to really effective charities without significantly altering your lifestyle."

Warwick's committee of Giving What We Can ran a similar campaign last year and raised £22,000 for AMF, a total the Oxford committee would like to beat.

Centre 'to help transform lives

ONE of nine new community groups to be created across the country is to be based in Oxford.

National charity The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) have been granted over half a million pounds worth of funding from People's Health Trust to run nine projects in some of the most disadvantaged areas in the country.

The aim of the projects is to tackle health inequalities, improve community involvement and provide participants with new skills that will improve their job and life prospects.

Using already established TCV centres such as the Community Groups project hubs, each group will organise for its members to take part in a range of activities throughout the year, from food growing to community space management and garden creation.

In addition to outdoor activities, Community Groups will also organise social events for its members and provide individual personal development opportunities.

Julie Hopes, chief executive of The Conservation Volunteers, said: "This will enable us to transform people's lives by improving their well-being.

"We are really looking forward to implementing the various Community Group projects and working closely with local people to improve their health and opportunities."

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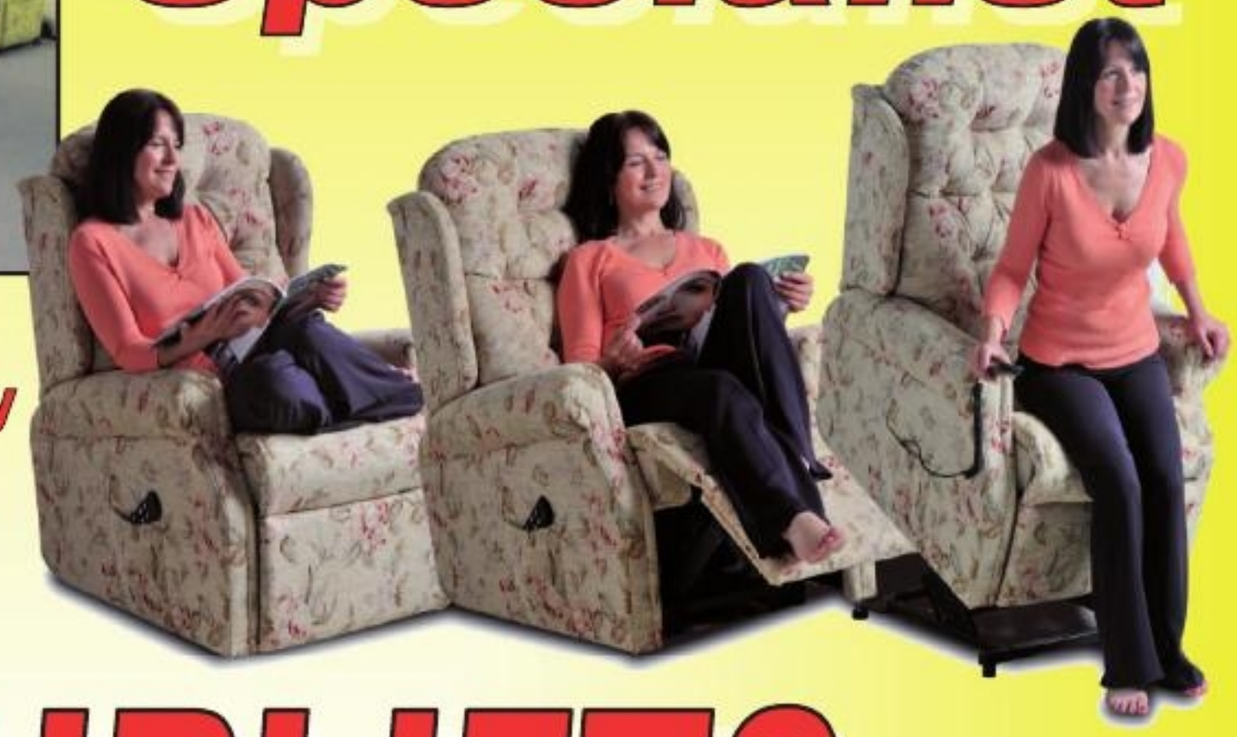

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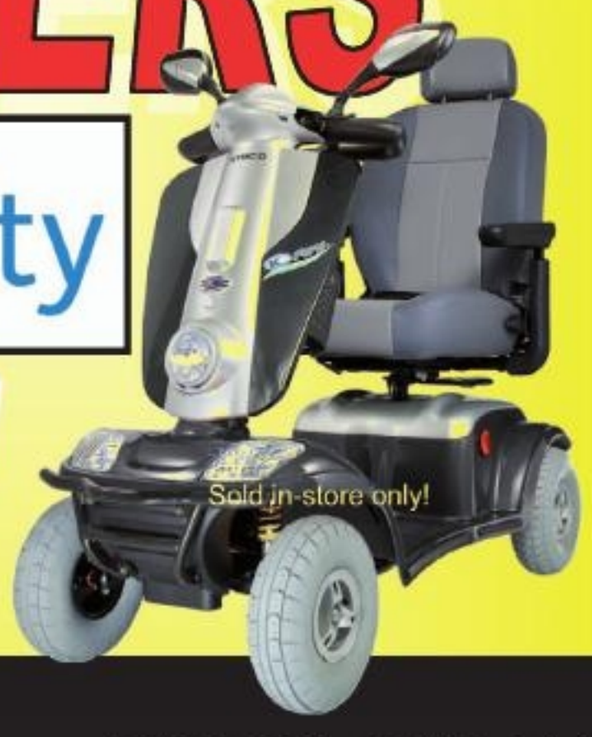

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Yarnton man forced to pay back £30,000

A MAN from Yarnton has been ordered to forfeit just over £30,000.

Gareth Dodd, aged 41, from Merton Way, was arrested in December 2011 after cannabis, MDMA, an air rifle and £30,090 cash were seized from his home.

On March 22, 2012, Mr Dodd was charged with two drug trafficking offences, possession of a firearm while prohibited, and possession of £80 in counterfeit notes.

He appeared at Oxford Crown Court on August 2 this year, where three counts were discontinued and he was found not guilty of one offence of drug trafficking.

However, cash seizure proceedings continued at Banbury Magistrates Court and a forfeiture hearing was arranged for November, which Mr Dodd stated he was going to contest.

During the investigation Mr Dodd did not provide any information to the Thames Valley Police Economic Crime Unit about the origin or legitimacy of the money. Mr Dodd did not contest the case and on November 11 it was heard by Banbury Magistrates', who were satisfied the cash was derived from crime as no evidence that the money was obtained legitimately had been provided.

Cumnor cricket's 'hero' honoured

By **Jack Johnson**
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

• *(From left to right) BBC South's Tony Husband and Roger Mitty*

A STALWART of Oxfordshire cricket has been named BBC South's Sports Personality of the Year Unsung Hero.

Roger Mitty, president of Cumnor Cricket Club, will now attend the national Sports Personality of the Year awards in Leeds on December 15 to find out if he is the overall winner of the Unsung Hero award.

Mr Mitty is celebrating his 50th year with the club and he received the award for his unrelenting service to Cumnor, as well as being the driving force behind making it one of the hubs of youth cricket in the country.

He was presented with the award live on television last week by BBC South's Tony Husband.

Mr Mitty said: "There are thousands of unsung heroes out there. I'm just thrilled for the club and for Oxfordshire cricket."

During his fifty years with the club, he has been player, captain, coach, committee member, chairman and president.

However, he has been suffering from a serious eye condition this year and despite undergoing a number of painful operations still continues to play a central role at the club.

Chairman of the club Ken Mannering said: "He is frequently seen on the boundary, keeping watch over our three league sides – often on the same day - and our many youth teams.

"He is a volunteer, but he treats his role as a full-time job, constantly working and influencing for the benefit of the club and its players.

"Roger's greatest gift to the club has been its youth section, which he started in the 1980s and which continues to thrive today.

"Around 150 boys and girls play for the club, and dozens have gone on to play at district, county and even international level."

For example, Ali Morteza, who came to Oxfordshire after losing his family in a Taliban attack in 2001, has gone on to play cricket for Afghanistan while Simon Cook, who has played for Kent and Middlesex, is Head Coach of the Hong Kong Cricket Club.

Mr Mitty also devotes his time and skills to other causes including serving at the village community store, on the Church council and fundraising for a new residential home for people with Alzheimer's.

News Bites

Henley theft

ELECTRICAL items including a large television and laptop were stolen from a house in Henley.

Between 3.15pm on October 14 and 5.45pm on October 18, offenders gained entry to a property in Crowsley Road, Shiplake, and stole several items.

The offenders are believed to have used a distinctive dark blue Elf Equitaine bag that belongs to the victim to carry the goods.

Piping stolen

COPPER piping was stolen from the grounds of a house in Pine Rise, Madley Park, Witney, on October 18.

The offence happened at 3.40pm while a white Ford pick-up truck with a blue back was seen at the property around the same time. It is believed the offenders are three white men.

Youth centre

BUILDING work has begun on a new families and youth centre in Wallingford.

The new centre on Wigod Way is expected to be completed by the end of June next year.

Cllr Bernard Stone, Mayor of Wallingford, said: "This will be a good facility for the town. It will be a centre to support families, children and young people."

A full festive dinner and not a saucepan in sight.

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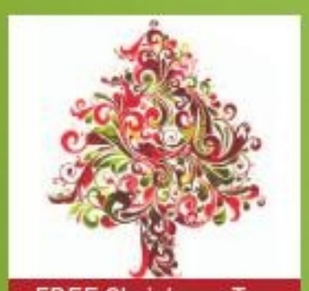

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Shops targeting good run up to Christmas

Business Matters

Guest columnist Francis Peck
Young Enterprise Business Advisor

Businesses - get volunteering

IN this month's guest column, local Young Enterprise business advisor, Francis Peck, on why he's encouraging fellow businesspeople to volunteer.

Young Enterprise is a national charity set up to help young people get a better understanding of the business world. More than 250,000 students each year take part in the Company Programme, and we have 38 companies in 27 schools in Oxfordshire involved.

As a Business Adviser I work with one of the schools, Our Lady's Abingdon, to help a team throughout the school year.

Each school team sets up as any limited company would be, i.e. selling shares to raise capital, opening a bank account, appointing directors, and choosing products or services. Once the company is established, it begins trading and attending fairs and markets to sell its products.

I have been involved with the Company Programme for nearly four years and I do it because I really enjoy working with the young people, and am frequently amazed at the business potential we have in our schools.

If you can spare the time, why not volunteer your services as we are always looking for new Business Advisers as more schools join the scheme.

The 27 schools involved in Oxfordshire are spread throughout the county so there will be one near you.

If you are interested to find out more about this very rewarding role please get in contact via susan.ledgard-hoile@y-e.org.uk or fjpeck@hotmail.com.

By Iain Nicholson

AS CHRISTMAS lights are switched on in towns across Oxfordshire, independent retailers are emphasising the importance of this time of year to their business sector. Many say that a successful run up to Christmas would see them take a big percentage of their whole year's business.

"Christmas is the most important financial moment of the year for us," says Patrick Neale, co-owner at Jaffé and Neale Bookshop & Cafe in Chipping Norton. "It's an opportunity to entice new customers into the shop and demonstrate the value our High Street shop can give them. It's when the best books are published. But most importantly it's great fun and recharges our batteries reminding us why we love bookselling."

"Christmas is an important part of our trading year," said Janette Reed of baby & children's boutique, Cotswold Kids. "In particular, baby's first Christmas captures the imagination of new parents and grandparents, and our Christmas Pudding and Rudolph hats always sell out."

• *Debbie Reiber-Hodgson, owner of Spoilt Silly*

Cotswold Kids is located in the Market Square in Witney, and has a pop-up shop running in Mill Street, Wantage, until early February. Fellow Wantage independent retailer, Debbie Reiber-Hodgson (pictured), owner of gift shop Spoilt Silly, said: "Christmas is an exciting time, a great opportunity to make the shop come alive with new and unique stock for the coming year. The shop window looks absolutely amazing with its Christmas lights and decorations, and that is a sure way to attract new customers in. A successful Christmas is imperative for my small business because it supports us through January and February, which can be quieter months, and it sets the foundations for the year ahead."

Jill Carver, owner of Added Ingredients Deli Cookshop in Abingdon, said: "By the time our customers awake to Christmas their independent local retailers have already guessed at the quantities/types of stock to buy and taken the risk of purchasing it. With everything in stock we totally rely on our lovely customers wanting to buy what we have invested in!".

Farmer wins national award

• *David, second from left, with partner Tracy Russell (third from left) and awards celebration co-hosts, Observer restaurant critic, Jay Rayner, and The Great British Bake Off presenter, Sue Perkins.*

LOCAL farmer David Newman is celebrating after winning a prestigious national food award. Now in their tenth year, the Observer Food Monthly Awards celebrate and reward the very best in British food and produce.

David's business, Bucksum Salads, which is based at Long Crendon near Thame, was voted Best Local Farmer – a category designed to celebrate excellence in small-scale food production at a time of extreme difficulty for the industry. David said: "I am delighted to have my produce recognised by this prestigious national award."

Bucksum began in 2006 from a simple garden polytunnel, and its salads are now served by several celebrity chefs and well-known restaurants.

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Five-star Kiwis

NEW Zealand five-piece group The Naked and Famous return to Europe for the first time since 2011, and perform at Oxford's O2 Academy on Saturday night.

They released their debut album 'Passive Me Aggressive You' around that time, and are currently working on their second album as they embark on a 23-city tour this winter.

Doors open at 6pm, and tickets cost £15. To book, go to www.o2academyoxford.co.uk or call 0844 477 2000.

Jim Dvorak

AMERICAN trumpeter Jim Dvorak joins up with Harrison Smith and OxJaMS trio George Haslam, Richard Leigh Harris and Steve Kershaw for a new show at the Old Fire Station tomorrow evening.

Jim has been on the UK and international jazz improvisation scene for over four decades, and began his longstanding association with Harrison back in 1983. Go to www.oldfirestation.org.uk for more information.

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5ive's big reunion night

FOLLOWING their reunion last year, boy band 5ive make their first visit to Oxford next Thursday, as they perform all the hits from their illustrious career.

The group enjoyed huge success in the late nineties and early 2000s, with songs including 'Keep on Movin', 'Let's Dance' and 'Everybody Get Up'.

Abz Love, Ritchie Neville, Scott Robinson and Sean Conlon return for the new tour, following on from the four taking part in the ITV2 documentary The Big Reunion that was shown at the start of this year.

"Something feels slightly different about this than even the Big Reunion tour," said Sean. "Because it's our own show, we're putting a lot more behind it.

"The set's looking really good, we've really got the best musicians and we can tweak it how we want to tweak it, whereas with The Big Reunion we had to work around their schedule.

"We've been away for a long time, we're well aware of it, and we just feel really privileged to be doing the show."

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

5ive released three albums during the first stage of their career between 1997 and 2001, picking up three number one singles and selling an estimated 15 and 20 million records worldwide.

They briefly reformed in 2006 and recorded material for what would have been their fourth studio album, but failed to get a lucrative record deal and disbanded again the following year.

"The first time around, the band was still young and it was a bit overwhelming," Sean added. "It was hard to embrace the good times.

"We've taken a step away, and then for me personally, I was able to find who Sean Conlon is as opposed to Sean from 5ive, and lead a bit more of a balanced life."

Next week's show starts at 7pm, and tickets start from £32.40.

For booking information, go to www.newtheatreoxford.org.uk or phone 0844 871 3020.

• *Scott, Sean, Abz and Ritchie perform in Oxford for the first time next Thursday*

Robin Hood

PANTOMIME season has arrived, and Robin Hood makes its debut production at the Oxford Playhouse from tomorrow, running all the way through to January.

Robin and his Merry Men battle the evil Sheriff of Nottingham in the classic tale, with a number of sing-along tunes, slapstick and dancing to entertain the whole family.

For a full list of dates, times and ticket information, go to www.oxfordplayhouse.com or call 01865 305305.

Kathryn Tickell

KATHRYN Tickell, one of the UK's most celebrated folk artists, performs songs from her 25-year career at the North Wall Arts Centre this evening.

She has released 14 albums and made three BBC Proms performances and has teamed up with a group of other performers for her latest project. Tickets are £16.50.

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Blair truly a music man

By Adam Flinn
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

GUITARIST and vocalist Blair Dunlop comes to Wallingford on Sunday, following the release of his debut album 'Blight and Blossom' earlier in the year.

Blair is the son of Fairport Convention and Albion Band founder Ashley Hutchings, and he recently took over the running of the latter from his father.

But he comes to Wallingford's Corn Exchange in his trio format, alongside Angharad Jenkins on fiddle and Jacob Stoney on keyboard.

He said: "The show will have songs from the debut album and some of the new stuff before the second album comes out; a mix of all the stuff really.

"We're in the middle of doing the second album, and it's pretty fun. I'm really looking forward to it coming out and I'm looking forward to hearing it myself because it's midway through recording."

• *Blair Dunlop returns to Wallingford after previously playing at BunkFest*

Blair was brought up around music, with his dad's work in the English folk scene, and also through his mother Judy Dunlop, a renowned folk singer in her own right.

"I suppose the biggest influence for me is purely being around music, no matter what genre it is," Blair said.

"Everyone is influenced by a mash of stuff and I'm definitely influenced by English folk music, but I suppose because I listen to all kinds of things, the biggest influence is being around it."

'Blight and Blossom' was released to critical acclaim, and contributed to him winning the Horizon Award at the 2013 BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards.

He added: "I'm off to Australia in the New Year with the new record and off the back of the first one, so that's quite nice!"

The show starts at 7.45pm, and tickets cost £12. For booking details, go to www.cornexchange.org.uk or phone 01491 825000.

Maff Brown

COMEDY writer Maff Brown is the headline act at the Chipping Norton Theatre this evening, as part of the Cotswold Comedy Club's regular series of events.

He regularly writes for Mock the Week and previously for Shooting Stars, and tours internationally with his upbeat and honest comedy. He is joined on stage by James Alderson and Tez Ilyas.

All tickets cost £12 for a 7.45pm start. Go to www.chippingnortontheatre.co.uk or call 01608 642350 to book.

Messy Jam

STREET dance specialists Messy Jam present their Christmas show at the Pegasus Theatre in Oxford on Saturday.

Their diverse show is set to be fun-filled, dynamic and full of surprises. For more information about Saturday's two performances, go to www.pegasustheatre.org.uk.

Night at ballet

VIENNA Festival Ballet bring their renowned choreography to Banbury's Mill Arts Centre on Wednesday, with their production of Snow White.

Based on the traditional Grimm's Brothers story, the ballet incorporates the enchanted mirror, beautiful girl, shiny red apple and Prince Charming into the performance.

Tickets cost £19.50, with shows taking place at 4.45pm and 7.30pm. To book, go to www.themillartscentre.co.uk or call 01295 297002.

Xmas cushion

A Christmas Cushion Concert introducing youngsters to classical instruments takes place at the Didcot Cornerstone on Sunday.

A mix of music is performed for young children, and gives them and their parents the excuse to have a dance as well.

It starts at 2pm, and tickets cost £8. For more information, go to www.cornerstone-arts.org or phone 01235 515144.

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Eighties night in Oxford

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

EIGHTIES legends Go West, Hue and Cry and The Christians celebrate their illustrious careers at the New Theatre on Sunday evening, with each playing a selection of their classic hits.

All three have joined forces for the first time ever, and promise three unique shows during the course of the evening.

Merseyside stars The Christians are back with a new line-up, with hits including 'Harvest for the World', 'Forgotten Town' and 'Ideal World'.

Lead singer Garry Christian said: "This is something new for us as we've never actually been on stage with any other group, so it's kind of a three-header in a way.

"It's three separate shows, so we're just going to treat it like a mini festival in a way.

"I think it was Go West's manager who said 'wouldn't it be a great idea to do a tour with Hue and Cry and us. We were really happy about that, we weren't doing anything else before Christmas, so great.

"Hopefully people won't have just come out to see Go West and Hue and Cry, but some of the audience have come to see us as well!"

Garry is the only member remaining from the original line-up, and is now joined by Mike Triggs, Lionel Duke, Neil Griffiths, Joey Ankrah and Cliff Watson.

"Originally there was only three of us, then there was two and then there was one, which is me," said Garry.

"The musicians around us back in the day we're friends from Liverpool, who were great friends but not that great musical-wise, so we just went out there and had a laugh.

"Now I've got serious musicians around me who can also sing, and it's just a great band."

Sunday's show starts at 7.30pm, and tickets start from £28.40. For more information and to book, go to www.newtheatreoxford.org.uk or phone 0844 871 3020.

• *Garry Christian and band come to Oxford on Sunday*

A Betrayal...

CLASSIC theatre comes to the Didcot Cornerstone on Saturday, as Harold Pinter's Betrayal tells the story of Emma, who has been cheating on her husband for the last seven years.

It focuses on all types of betrayal and includes Pinter's trademark economical dialogue, as he skilfully draws out the character's self absorption and deceptions.

Tickets cost £14.50, and the show starts at 7.30pm. For more details, phone 01235 515144 or go to www.cornerstone-arts.org.

Black stars

THIN Lizzy alumni Ricky Warwick and Scott Gorham return with the Black Star Riders, coming to Oxford's O2 Academy on Monday.

As well as a few Thin Lizzy classics, the group come to Oxford in support of their debut album 'All Hell Breaks Loose'. Go to www.o2academyoxford.co.uk to book.

Gyles Brandreth

GYLES Brandreth presents his unique one-man show at the Chipping Norton Theatre on Monday, as he sets out to find the secret of how to be happy.

The former politician has made a number of TV and radio appearances in recent years as a regular on Just A Minute, a reporter for the One Show and as a guest in dictionary corner on Countdown.

The show starts at 7.45pm, and tickets cost £16.

Go to www.chippingnortontheatre.co.uk or call 01608 642350 for more information.

Karine Polwart

BBC2 Folk Awards nominee Karine Polwart comes to the St John the Evangelist Church in Oxford tomorrow night, following the release of her new album 'Traces'.

She is touring with her brother Steven and Fair Islander Inge Thomson, and will be playing a range of songs from the new album and some live favourites.

It starts at 7.30pm, and tickets cost £15 in advance.

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Green fingers

Advertising Feature

Saving plants from the winter chill

• *(Main pic) credit PA Photo/JupiterImages Corporation. (Inset pic) dahlia flower, credit PA Photo/Thinkstockphotos.*

Tips on how to prepare your plants for the winter and protect them from frost

By **Hannah Stephenson**

I LOOKED out on my patio a few days ago to see a pelargonium I planted back in May coming into flower yet again, at a time when most of my summer pots have been emptied.

Despite a lot of rain, it's been a mild October, and this may lull many of us into a false sense of security about how long we leave it before offering our plants some protection from the winter chill.

As I live in a frost pocket, the pelargonium is going to come under cover soon. If you have pots of pelargoniums (bedding geraniums) which you want to enjoy next year, put them inside too, in a light, frost-free place such as a slightly heated greenhouse, a sheltered porch next to the house or an unheated spare room or conservatory, cutting them back to 10cm (4in). Don't expose them to warm central heating or they'll just wilt when you put them out next year.

Fuchsias, which lose their leaves entirely and spend winter looking like bare sticks, will need the same treatment. You'll hardly need to water them at all until growth resumes in spring, at which point you can repot them into John Innes No 2 potting compost and harden them off before placing them outside when the risk of frost has passed.

Marguerites (Argyranthemums) will also not stand any frost and are best dug up and potted, cut back by half and kept in a dry, cool, frost-free place that has sunlight through the winter, like a cool greenhouse. Water them sparingly to keep their roots dry until spring, when you can start to water them more frequently.

If you don't have heating in your greenhouse, insulating your more tender plants with bubble wrap can make a huge difference, especially if you buy the fixing clips which separate the glass from the bubble wrap, creating a thin pocket of insulating air between the glass and the wrap. Alternatively, you may have to venture out on really cold nights and cover your tender specimens with horticultural fleece to keep the winter chill at bay.

Pots of tender exotics such as citrus, palms and oleander which have graced your patio in summer will need to be moved back under cover, either into a cool conservatory or frost-free greenhouse, and will need to be watered sparingly throughout the winter. If your tender plants are simply too big to move, then wrapping them in hessian or horticultural fleece may be the answer.

Hopefully, a bit of TLC over the winter months will ensure that your plants are brought back to their full glory next summer.

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The wood life

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• *(Main pic) A beautiful finished flooring. Picture credit: PA Photo/thinkstockphotos. (left) Picture credit: PA Photo/Handout.*

By **Julia Gray**

IF YOU have period floorboards in your home, lucky you. If you don't, it doesn't mean you are doomed to be unlucky though - installing wooden flooring is easier than ever before.

Period floorboards are often hidden under carpet, tiles or lino, waiting to be discovered and restored to their former glory. This process usually means sanding with an industrial floor sander and edger, which is hard, hot and dusty work. Although more expensive, employing someone to sand them for you is, in my opinion, well worth it. They usually include the cost of the wood stain or varnish in the price and they'll also be able to do the job quicker than you can.

Original floorboards often have modern boards mixed in where repairs have been done over the years, and painting these boards can disguise them better than using a stain or varnish (although dark stains and varnishes can work well). You can, of course, replace the new boards with old ones, but this can be expensive and time-consuming, with no guarantee they'll match perfectly when sanded.

All that said, original floorboards are a fantastic feature in a period house or flat and there's nothing more satisfying than revealing and enjoying them after years under cover.

What if you don't have original wooden boards? Laminate flooring, which has a picture of wood printed onto boards, is an inexpensive and easy way to copy the look. It's not as fashionable as it once was though, so instead, why not opt for wooden flooring boards that click together, with no nails, screws or glue required? This system is widely available to buy, easy to fit, it won't break the bank, and is possible for both engineered and solid wood flooring.

Engineered wood boards have a top layer of real wood, with cheaper layers underneath. The thickness of the wood layer varies, so make sure you know how thick it is and how many times, if any, it can be sanded. A floor that can be sanded a few times is a good investment because it can take more wear and tear.

As lovely as solid wood is, engineered wood can be a more practical choice because the layers give it added strength and durability. Unlike solid wood, it shouldn't shrink and expand when exposed to moisture and changes in temperature and humidity.

Most wooden flooring comes finished, sealed and ready to fit, but you can get bare wood if you want to stain, varnish or paint it yourself, either conventional floorboards or, again, boards that click together for easy fitting.

With everything considered, getting the wooden floor of your dreams could be a bit of a battle - but the result will certainly be worth it.

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BEECH COURT

Entertainment

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www.oxfordplayhouse.com

29 November - 30 November
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30 November - 1 December
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30 November, 7:30pm
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Betrayal" shares married Emma's secret; a 7 year affair with her husband's best friend. We are delighted to welcome back London Classic Theatre and it's director, Michael Cabot, with this production. Michael has a wealth of experience in directing Pinter plays and really understands what Pinter was trying to achieve in his writing.£14.50, £13 (concs)"
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1 December, 8pm - 9:15pm
Jacqueline du Pré Music Building
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www.chinnorrailway.co.uk/santaspecials

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1 December
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hislife@gmail.com

1 December, 7:45pm
Corn Exchange Wallingford
SINGER, SONGWRITER AND GUITARIST BLAIR DUNLOP
Tickets £12 are available from Corn Exchange box office in person, on 01491 825000 and online at www.cornexchange.org.uk

2 December, 7pm - 9pm
Barton, Oxford
PUBLIC MEETING
The Thames Valley's Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), Anthony Stansfeld, will be holding a public meeting
01865 846780

2 December
Oxford O2 Academy
BLACK STAR RIDERS - MARCO MENDOZA /// RICHARD FORTUS - THE DEAD DAISIES

4 December, 7:30pm
Civic Hall Wantage
OYSTERBAND
Support from the Rosie Eade Band. Tickets £16 from: The Shoulder of Mutton, 38 Wallingford St. Wantage and online from www.wegottickets.com/event/220466

5 December, 8pm - 9:30pm
Jacqueline du Pré Music Building
DANIEL TONG (PIANO)
Daniel Tong plays piano works by Haydn and Beethoven
www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/jdp 01865 286660

7 December, 7pm - 8:30pm
Jacqueline du Pré Music Building
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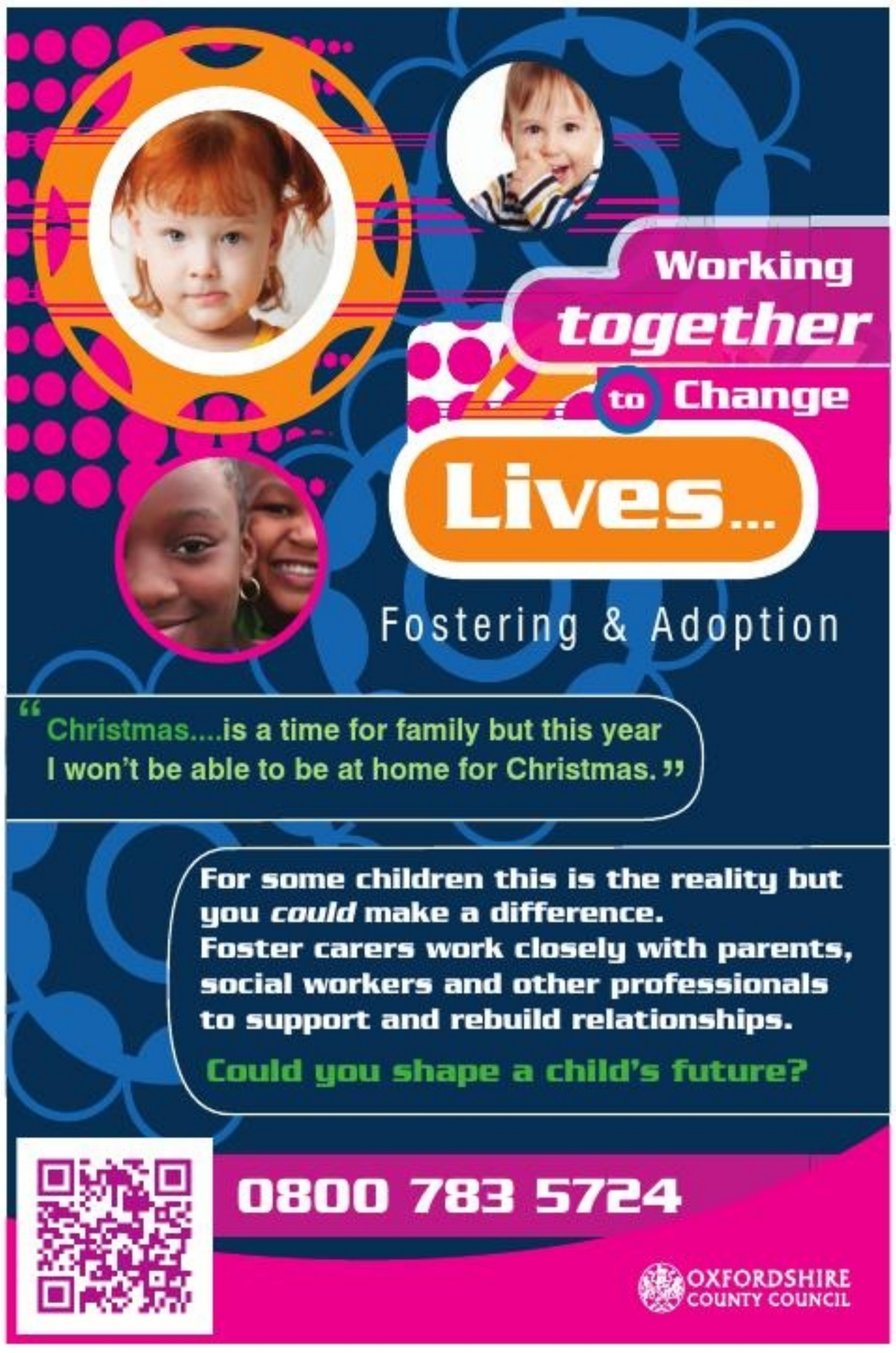
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Entertainment

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To 7 December, 7:30pm - 9:30pm
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HANDEL'S MESSIAH BY CANDLELIGHT
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7 December, 7:30pm
Drayton Village Hall
COUNTRY MUSIC NIGHT
(& Christmas Buffet, Mulled Wine, etc) with two live acts, Tony Collins and Clear Cut.
01865 341778 www.draytonvh.co.uk

7 December - 8 December, 10:30am - 3:30pm
Denman, Marcham
CHRISTMAS FAIR AND REAL JAM FESTIVAL
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w: www.wirealjamfestival.com t: 01865 391 991

7 December
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01235 771122/55 www.thecomedy-club.co.uk

7 December
St John the Evangelist, Oxford
THE SIXTEEN
This festive programme, A Ceremony of Carols, features the music of two of the most significant composers of vocal music of the 20th century, Francis Poulenc and Benjamin Britten. It includes some of Britten's finest choral music for Christmas including A Ceremony of Carols.
www.thesixteen.com

7 December, 10am - 12pm
Cutteslowe Park, Oxford, OX2 8NW
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This is an exciting introduction to orienteering, organised by Thames Valley Orienteering Club, and is aimed at newcomers, families and runners of all ages and abilities. There will be longer courses for runners as well as shorter courses for families and children. You can run, jog or walk at your own pace. If you haven't tried orienteering before, we'll help you get started. Just don't forget your sense of adventure! Come along any time between 10am and 11.30am and give it a go. Just wear what you would for a run or walk.
www.tvoc.org.uk or email publicity@tvoc.org.uk

8 December, 3pm
Henley Town Hall
ALLEN DIGITAL THEATRE ORGAN - ELIZABETH HARRISON
£7 concessions £6.50
www.henleyorgantrust.org.uk

10 December, 6:30pm
Waterperry Gardens, Nr Wheatley
JAMES WONG FREE TALK GROW YOUR OWN WAY
The talk includes a questions and answers section giving visitors the chance to quiz James! Tickets only so pre-booking is essential ..
www.waterperrygardens.co.uk

10 December, 7:30pm
St Mary's Church Wallingford
ALBION CHRISTMAS BAND
Tickets, £16 and £10 for those under 17 and/or in full-time education Box office 01491 826972, Wallingford Town Information Centre or via www.tp-ents.org.uk and www.wegottickets.com/event/241164

12 December
Oxford O2 Academy
THE BAD SHEPHERDS
ADRIAN EDMONDSON'S celebrated folk-punk outfit
0844 477 2000 www.o2academyoxford.co.uk

12 December - 31 December
Burton Taylor Studio
FATHER CHRISTMAS AND THE ICICLE BICYCLE
Young children and their families will experience stories, festive songs and decoration making, whilst getting the exciting opportunity to meet Father Christmas and his team in this interactive adventure written and directed by Helen Eastman.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

13 December
carswell Golf and Country Club
LIVE JAZZ IN OXFORDSHIRE CHRISTMAS DINNER
Christmas Dinner followed by music from the Zoë Schwarz Blue Commotion.
www.oxfordlivejazz.com or 01367 718903

13 December - 15 December
St. Edburg's Church, Bicester
CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL
"Friday & Saturday 10.00 to 19.00, Sunday 12.30 to 18.00 followed by a ""Carols in the Trees"" at 18.00Live music, refreshments, and children's trail throughoutAdults £2.50, accompanied children free"

14 December, 8pm - 11:30pm
The Wheatsheaf, High St, Oxford
GAPPY TOOTH INDUSTRIES' WINTER WARMER EVENT
"The Empty Vessels Peerless Pirates Grant Sharkey Bethany Weimers £5 on the door, or cheaper from www.wegottickets.com/event244177
www.gappytooth.com

14 December, 5:55pm
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27 December - 30 December
Waterperry Gardens, Nr Wheatley
CHRISTMAS WEEK AT WATERPERRY GARDENS
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www.waterperrygardens.co.uk 01844 339226

10 January, 8pm
Wallingford Town Hall
TWHAS WILL BE BY LIZ WOOLLEY
Children and war: Children's experiences of WW2 in Oxfordshire'.
This talk looks at how the lives of Oxfordshire children – both those born in the county and those evacuated here – were affected by World War II. Oxfordshire escaped major bombing during World War II but the county's inhabitants were, none-the-less, heavily affected by the War. Preparations for possible attack and invasion altered the familiar landscape and everyday life in towns and villages was disrupted. Thousands of evacuees found refuge here and became part of residents' homes and schools. Visitors (£3) are most welcome."
www.twhas.org.uk

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See next weeks paper for more details

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Winter Health

Advertising Feature

Working out for wellness

Exercise doesn't just help prevent a wide range of illnesses, it can help treat and control them too, as a new study confirms

By **Lisa Salmon**

POPPING out for a regular brisk walk or cycle, and using the stairs instead of the lift, could be as good as popping pills for some conditions.

While it's long been known that exercise massively reduces the risk of developing certain diseases, a major study suggests exercise may also be as effective as drugs at treating conditions like heart disease and stroke.

Although people who suffer from such illnesses shouldn't throw their tablets away, the implication is that exercise should be as important a part of their treatment as medication.

The new study, by researchers at the London School of Economics, Harvard Medical School and Stanford University School of Medicine, analysed the results of 305 trials involving nearly 340,000 people, comparing the effectiveness of exercise and drugs on preventing death.

It found being active was just as good as medicine for those with existing heart disease, and in the prevention of diabetes, and a more effective treatment than drugs for people who'd suffered a stroke.

But while physical activity is clearly good for your health on several levels, only 14% of UK adults exercise regularly, and recent figures show that only a third meet recommended levels of physical activity.

Part of the problem is, of course, that often it's easier to reach for the pills than it is to exercise. But Batt points out that people don't need to join a gym and make a huge effort to achieve the benefits of being active.

Just taking the recommended weekly 150 minutes of moderate intensity exercise is enough to really make a difference, and this could be achieved through things like walking the kids to school briskly, regularly doing fairly vigorous gardening, or taking the stairs instead of the lift and actively commuting to work.

However, you need to feel you've exerted yourself, so a leisurely amble isn't fulfilling the guidelines.

"We're struggling to get enough people to meet physical activity guidelines," says Batt. "But this isn't about buying a new tracksuit and running shoes, it's about a lifestyle change that involves things like using the stairs rather than the lift, walking at lunchtime, going dancing, and actively commuting."

Nevertheless, simply doing the minimum amount of recommended exercise could bring a wealth of benefits.

For example, after regularly exercising, someone taking a drug for mild high blood pressure might be able to come off it, lose weight and reduce the chances of developing type 2 diabetes and osteoarthritis, and will probably feel a lot better, with muscles in better condition and improved mood and self-confidence.

"There are multiple benefits to this fantastic form of treatment that we haven't invested enough in," stresses Batt.

"What we should be saying is let's get everybody to meet the physical activity guidelines, rather than waiting for a trial to find the perfect dose, which will never happen. There isn't a one-size exercise dose that fits all."

• *Brisk walking can help in battling chronic illness. Credit: PA Photo/thinkstockphotos.*

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Film of the week

Advertising Feature

Birds of a feather

By **Damon Smith**

DATING back to 1621 Massachusetts, Thanksgiving is one of the biggest national holidays in America, celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November.

Shops close for the day, curtains fall across Broadway and families come together around the dinner table to give thanks for the previous 12 months.

The centrepiece of this gathering of the generations is a succulent roast turkey.

In Jimmy Hayward's computer-animated comedy, the feathered fowls strike back, attempting to change the main course of history so that they can be granted a stay of execution every winter.

Free Birds offers a surprising alternative to turkey for the Thanksgiving feast, which should appeal to both vegetarians and carnivores, but manages to vastly increase the calorie count and fat and carbohydrate contents.

The film's unlikely hero is a turkey called Reggie (Owen Wilson), who realizes that the abundance of food offered up by the farmer is merely a plot to fatten the flock.

Having caused a fuss, Reggie is kicked out of the coop and, by chance, he is chosen by the President's cherubic daughter as the one bird to be pardoned from the carving table.

Transported to Camp David, Reggie thinks his troubles have evaporated until Jake (Woody Harrelson), founder and sole member of the Turkey Freedom Front, kidnaps Reggie and pressgangs him into a top secret mission of the utmost importance.

"We're going back to the first Thanksgiving to get turkeys off the menu," booms Jake.

Together, they break into a military facility and use a time-travelling device called S.T.E.V.E. (George Takei) - which stands for Space Time Exploration Vehicle Envoy - to head back to 1621 to spearhead a turkey uprising.

The birds immediately cross paths with colonial hunter Myles Standish (Colm Meaney) and his men, who are scavenging for food.

Cluckily, Reggie and Jake are rescued by Chief Broadbeak (Keith David) and his turkey tribe including the chief's courageous daughter Jenny (Amy Poehler), who helps the heroes from the future.

Free Birds is light-hearted gobbledygook that lacks visual sophistication or belly laughs. Wilson, Harrelson and Poehler deliver solid vocal performances while Meaney is a lacklustre villain.

The script, co-written by Scott Mosier, is sporadically amusing, like a disclaimer caption at the beginning of the film what affirms this is a work of fiction - "Except for the talking turkeys. That's totally real."

But there's no originality or verve on screen and the plot twists and turns in obvious directions.

Parents will probably be stifling yawns.

Free Birds

RELEASED: November 29

RATING: U

RUN TIME: 91 mins

Action/Sci-Fi/Romance

FEATURING THE VOICES OF: Owen Wilson, Woody Harrelson, Amy Poehler, George Takei, Colm Meaney, Keith David, Dan Fogler, Carlos Alazraqui, Kaitlyn Maher.

DIRECTOR: Jimmy Hayward

• *Pictured (l-r): Reggie (voiced by Owen Wilson) and Jake (voiced by Woody Harrelson). Picture credit: PA Photo/Entertainment One*

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Slow roasted duck, spring onions, mango relish £10.50
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Bakewell tart £5.95 British cheeseboard £7.50

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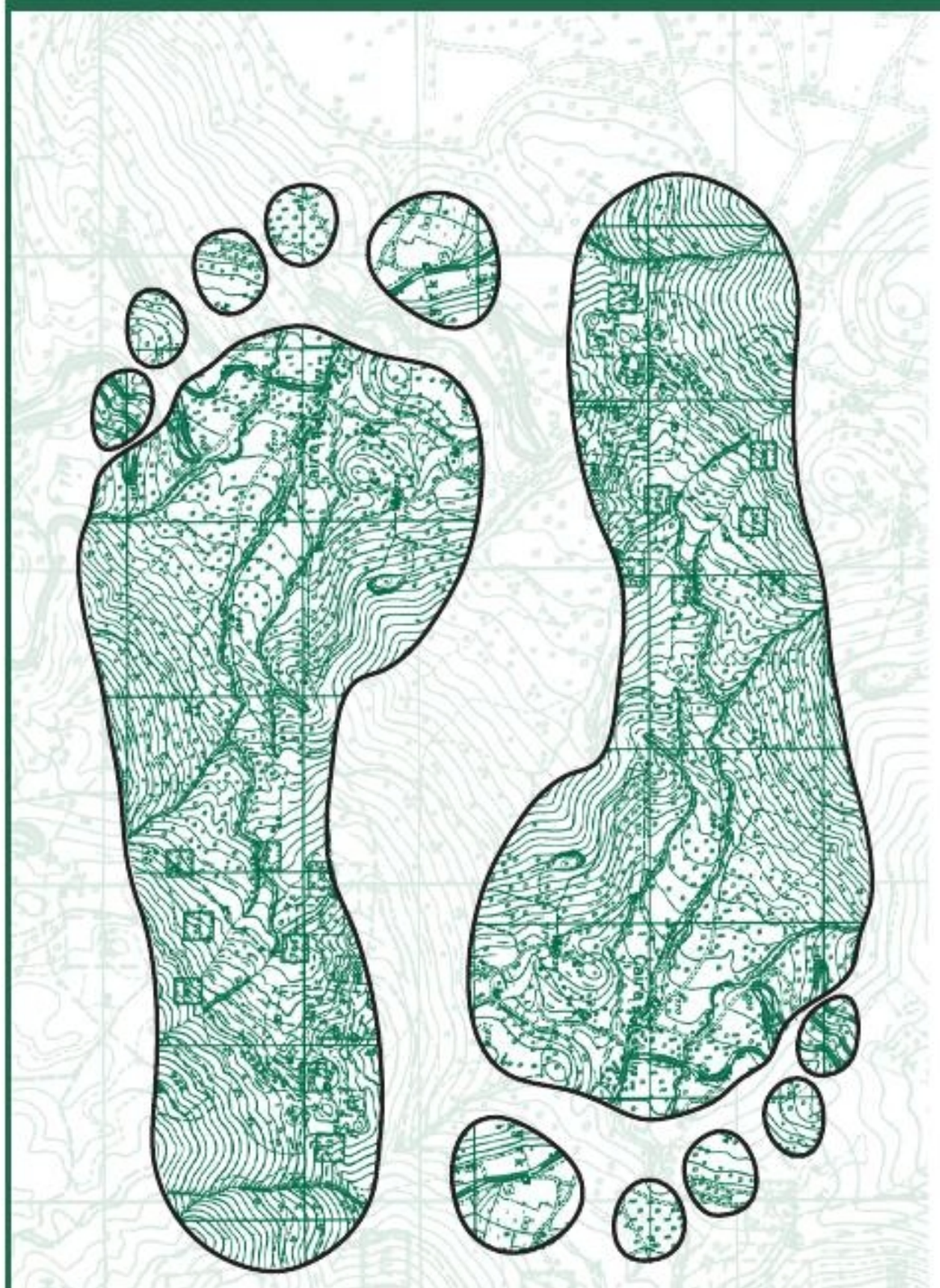

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Gravadlax of Salmon poached free range egg, asparagus & chervil hollandaise served with granary bread & butter
Roasted Goat's Cheese (v) herb crust, tomato salsa, pomegranate and soused golden beetroot
Warm Salad of Prosciutto Wrapped Chicken with watermelon, cinnamon croutons and a honey mustard dressing

Mains

Roast Turkey rolled breast with an orange & cranberry stuffing served with pigs in blankets and a cranberry gravy
Homemade Beef Wellington seared heart of fillet, rolled with a mushroom duxelle then wrapped in pastry and baked to order and served with a Madeira jus (supplement £2.50)
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Chestnut, Cranberry & Brie Wellington (v)
all served with roast potatoes and seasonal vegetables

Puddings

Kumquat Stuffed Christmas Pudding brandy sauce
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Please complete the form below with your message and send it with your donation to the Freepost address below (no stamp required). All donations will go to support Sobell House Hospice.

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Puzzles

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Sudoku

Place a number from 1 to 9 in each empty cell so that each 3x3 block, column, and full row includes each of the numbers from 1 to 9 only once. **EASY/MEDIUM/HARD**

	2		9	1		8	7	
8					3	1		
	4				2	9		5
1	6			3		2		
7			2		9			3
		4		7			9	8
3		2	8				6	
		5	6					9
	8	6		5	1		4	

	8						1	
	3	7		6		2	5	
		5	1		8	4		
			4		3			
	1						3	
			2		6			
		6	3		9	5		
	9	3		4		8	6	
	2						9	

9	4		8					
	1			4				
	3	2						
6		4	1			5		
3			9		8			2
		9			3	7		6
						3	1	
				7			6	
					5		9	7

Two speed crossword

Quick Clues Across

4 Reddishbrown (6)
8 Everlasting (7)
10 Firedog (7)
11 Unit of weight (5)
12 Wash lightly (5)
13 Savage (9)
16 Disparaged (9)
19 Digit (5)
20 Reverie (5)
22 Dignify (7)
23 Alighting (7)
24 Unforeseen (6)

Quick Clues Down

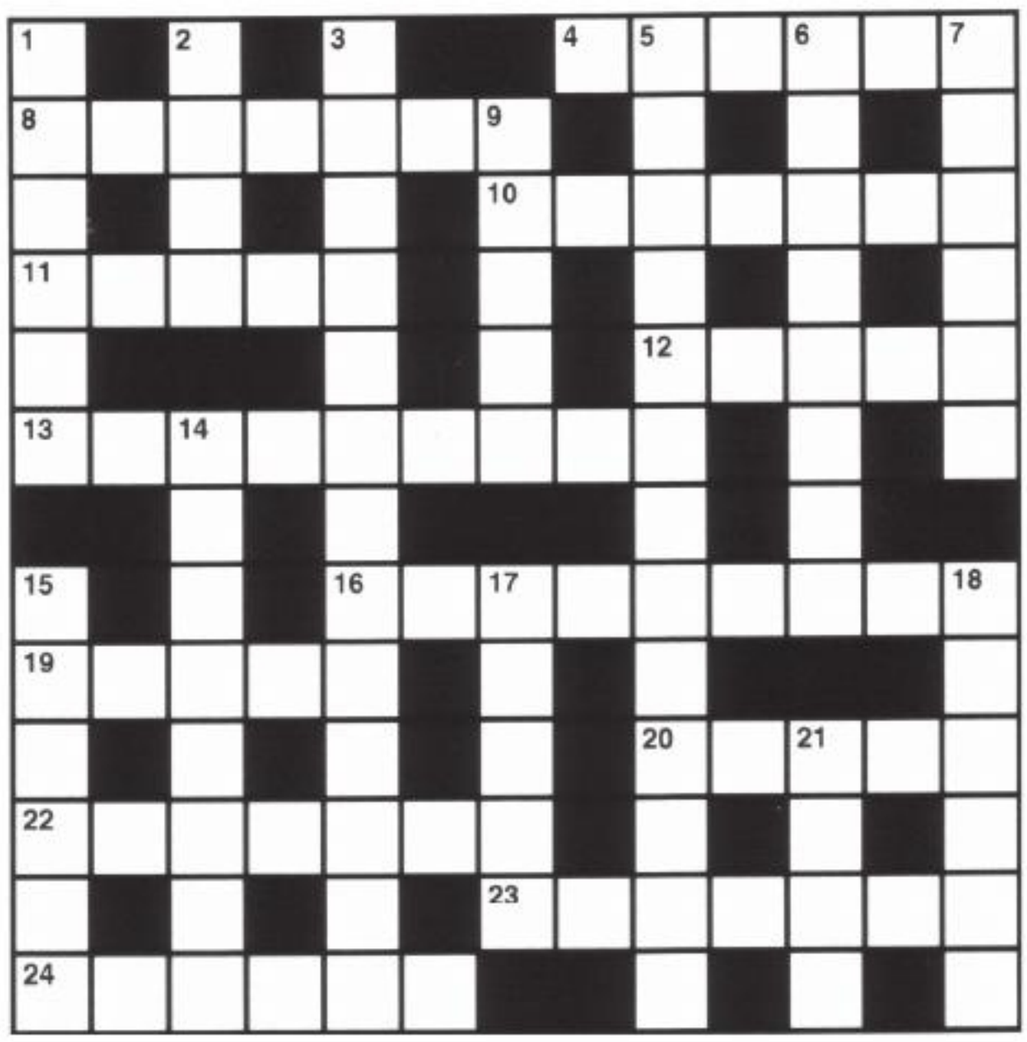
1 Begin a journey (3,3)
2 Edible seed (4)
3 Beyond description (13)
5 Mutual agreement (13)
6 Toughness (8)
7 Made taut (6)
9 Slow stately musical passage (5)
14 Sent back (8)
15 Greek city (6)
17 Discussion group (5)
18 Injury (6)
21 Narrative poem (4)

Cryptic Clues Across

4 Cheats at cards? (6)
8 But strong drink on Saturday and Sunday? (4,3)
10 All tear sideways (7)
11 Understand the subject on hand (5)
12 Where one cannot expect a warm welcome? (5)
13 A tailor's right to be upset about men's clothes (9)
16 An April display presumably (5,4)
19 The battleground is some land round the north (5)
20 One needs drive to make a go of it (5)
22 Last in bed got blown up (7)
23 Hang it! (7)
24 Songbirds? (6)

Cryptic Clues Down

1 Are they eaten by vegetarian cannibals? (6)
2 The way to embark (4)
3 Obviously he must be trained for the job (76)
5 Pharmacist who could have helped the three blind mice (6,7)
6 Sing joyfully in a US state (8)
7 Quickly surround gangster in the bar (6)
9 Heard in the alley by way of an excuse (5)
14 She upsets me in beads (8)
15 It sounds a risky caper (6)
17 Suitable instrument for playing watermusic (5)
18 A long speech read it out (6)
21 Came equal? Bound to! (4)



Scribble space

Last week's solutions

1	7	2	3	4	8	9	5	6
3	9	6	7	5	1	4	2	8
8	5	4	9	2	6	7	1	3
9	1	5	6	3	7	8	4	2
6	2	8	5	1	4	3	7	9
7	4	3	8	9	2	5	6	1
2	3	1	4	7	9	6	8	5
5	6	7	1	8	3	2	9	4
4	8	9	2	6	5	1	3	7

9	8	2	1	5	3	7	6	4
5	3	4	6	7	8	9	1	2
1	6	7	2	4	9	3	8	5
4	9	1	3	2	7	8	5	6
8	5	6	9	1	4	2	3	7
7	2	3	8	6	5	1	4	9
3	7	9	4	8	6	5	2	1
2	4	8	5	9	1	6	7	3
6	1	5	7	3	2	4	9	8

1	3	2	5	7	4	9	8	6
6	5	7	1	9	8	4	3	2
4	8	9	3	2	6	1	7	5
9	7	3	2	1	5	6	4	8
8	2	1	4	6	9	3	5	7
5	4	6	8	3	7	2	9	1
3	9	8	6	5	1	7	2	4
7	1	4	9	8	2	5	6	3
2	6	5	7	4	3	8	1	9

Quick Crossword

Across: 1 Caustic 1 Recur 8 Ache 9 Dumbbell, 10 Horse chestnut 13 Gnat 14 Ever 17 Interrogation 19 Eyesight 20 Exit 21 Tests 22 Schemer

Down: 2 Anchor 3 Stepson 4 Indicator 5 Robes 6 Cleaner 7 Related11 Energetic 12 Trident 13 Gathers 15 Extreme 16 Polite 18 Ruins

Cryptic Crossword

Across: 1 Refrain 5 Casts 8 Trip 9 Envisage 10 Proliferating 13 Herb 14 Urge 17 Feather duster 19 Rehearse 20 Upas 21 Surge 22 Adverse

Down: 2 Errors 3 Repulse 4 Ineffable 5 China 6 Seaside 7 Sleight 11 Roundhead 12 Informs 13 Heather 15 Gesture 16 Relays 18 Heave

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WIN the new Merlin Complete Collection DVD box set!

Closing date: Friday, December 13

In September 2008, Saturday evenings on BBC saw the first airings of a new hit show.

In the telling of a story about a land of myth and a time of magic... the destiny of a great kingdom is seen rest on the shoulders of a young man. The series name? Merlin of course.

Since its launch, this ambitious BBC drama has grown to become one of the most loved and most watched programmes on television. The show's creators, Julian Murphy and Johnny Capp, pushed in equal measure both the plot development and the special effects, benchmarking the show's advanced CGI content against the best from Hollywood. It worked, with over 100 countries around the world licensing the show and huge DVD sales, together with an explosion in branded Merlin games, toys, a Merlin Magazine and a Merlin themed 'Dragon's Tower' at Warwick Castle

Swords, Sorcery and swashbuckling adventure ruled in the show. The Complete Collection brings together all five series on 27 DVDs, as we follow the young warlock Merlin (Colin Morgan), as he attempts to fulfil his destiny at the side of the once and future king; Arthur (Bradley James). Featuring a stellar cast including Angel Coulby, Katie McGrath, Anthony Head, Richard Wilson, and John Hurt as the voice of the Dragon, The Complete Collection tells the epic story of the golden age of Camelot. Featuring superb action sequences and stunning CGI captivating the imagination as never-before-seen.

With an RRP of £59.49 and a running time 47hrs approx this is the ultimate Merlin fan package and although you will undoubtedly be able to find it at a lower price we have an even better deal as we have 3 sets to give away totally free.

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Q: In which mythical kingdom is Merlin set?

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REVIEW: SANDERO STEPWAY

By **Philip Shoulder**

@writeonmotoring

RENAULT'S subsidiary budget brand Dacia has been making waves this year, with the Duster 4x4 and Sandero supermini.

Dacia is the fastest growing automotive brand in Europe, selling 11,000 orders to date. The latest addition - the Sandero Stepway crossover - offers SUV style motoring from £7,995. With a 40mm increase in ride height over the Sandero, the Stepway gets a more rugged "go-anywhere" look, being kitted out with a front end and special body features, including front and rear skid plates, fog lamps, two-tone bumper, pronounced wheel arches, 16-inch Flexwheels rims, two-tone longitudinal roof bars, and exclusive Azurite blue paint. Powering the Stepway are two engines: a 0.9-litre TCe 90 petrol and 1.5 dCi 90 diesel.

The Sandero Stepway comes in two trim flavours; entry level Ambiance and more expensive Laureate. Standard kit on the Ambiance includes: daytime running lights, heated rear windscreen, a 12v socket, a CD radio, auxiliary connection, Bluetooth, USB input and electric front windows. Safety isn't scrimped on either, with front and side airbags, anti-lock brakes incorporating emergency brake assist, stability control, and ISOFIX child seat fixing points.

Once inside, you're treated with a spacious and airy cabin - although the 320-litre boot is rather shallow.

Admittedly it doesn't have the polished tactile feel of more expensive cars in this class, but the overall design is quite pleasant. The seats are comfortable enough, although there's no driver's side height adjustment. Larger drivers may also find the footwell a bit cramped, but at least there's somewhere to rest your left leg. Falling into the two-wheel drive crossover class, the Stepway does without clever traction control systems that you get on the considerably more expensive Fiat Panda Trekking and Peugeot 2008, but you do get mud and snow tyres.

At parking speeds the steering is usefully light, and combined with soft suspension means the Stepway can feel 'floaty' on faster A and B roads, although grip levels are surprisingly good.

Gear ratios are well-chosen and make the most of the relatively modest 89 bhp output, allowing the Stepway to gather pace well and cruise comfortably, despite the 1.5 litre diesel's gruffness. Stopping isn't a problem either, as the brakes are strong and positive.

Verdict:

This Sandero Stepway crossover brings the same qualities of great value and genuine capability that has already been seen in the hugely popular Duster 4x4.

• *Sandero Stepway*

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60	Mazda3 TS², Graphite, Manual, Petrol with 33,245 miles	£9,490
11	Mazda3 TS, Black, Manual, Petrol with 27,834 miles	£9,490
59	Mazda3 Sport, Crystal White Pearl, Manual, Petrol with 25,157 miles	£9,495
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10	Mazda3 TS², Aluminum, Manual, Diesel with 20,879 miles	£9,995
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Fuel consumption figures for the CR-V 1.6 i-DTEC range in mpg (l/100km): Urban 56.5 - 58.9 (5.0 - 4.8), Extra Urban 62.8 - 65.7 (4.5 - 4.3), Combined 60.1 - 62.8 (4.7 - 4.5). CO_2 emissions: 124 - 119g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience.

Model Shown: CR-V 1.6 I-DTEC SR Manual in optional Urban Titanium Metallic at £23,300 On The Road. **Terms and Conditions:** New retail CR-V 1.6 I-DTEC registered between 19 October 2013 to 31 December 2013. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. **Honda Aspirations (PCP):** £165 per month example shown based on CR-V 1.6 I-DTEC S in Urban Titanium Metallic at £23,300 total cash price (and total amount payable) with 37 months 0% APR Representative (interest rate per annum 0% fixed) with £7,949 (34%) deposit, Guaranteed Future Value / Optional Final Payment of £9,411, annual mileage of 18,500 and excess mileage charge: 4.58p per mile. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc. 470 London Road, Slough, Berkshire SL3 8QY. **Complimentary Servicing:** 5 years' servicing or 62,500 miles, whichever comes first, includes a maximum of 5 manufacturer's scheduled services. Registered Name: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Registered Office: Empire Court, Albert Street, Redditch B97 4DA. United Kingdom. Registration No. 3716766 VAT Registration No. GB927551606. Johnsons Cars Ltd is an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Limited which is Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

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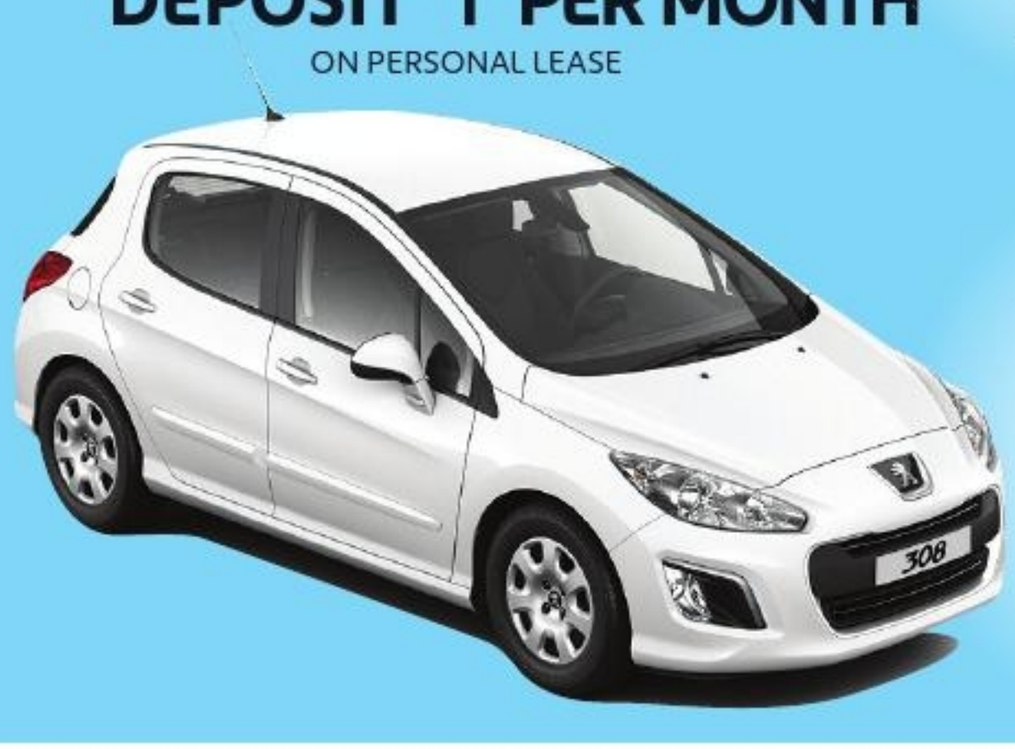

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10 60 FIESTA ZETEC 1.4 PETROL AUTOMATIC, 5dr, morello met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, front fogs, HFS, a/c, PAS, ABS, ESP, alloys, rear sensors, one owner, low mileage, FSH, 16,541 miles

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11 61 FIESTA 1.6 TDCI 95PS ZETEC S DIESEL, 3dr, panther black met/grey, 5spd, e/w&m, r/CD, alloys, a/c, HFS, ABS, ESP, c/l, 5 a/b, PAS, B'tooth, FSH, 1 owner from new, low miles, £20 RFL per year, 12,200 miles

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13 13 B MAX ZETEC 1.0 ECOBOOST 125PS, 5 dr, midnight sky/grey, 5 spd, City pack, e/w&m, Ford Sync, power folding mirrors, rear park sensors, HFS, ABS, multiple airbags, alloys, ex-demonstrator, low mileage 3,000, RFL £30 per year

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10 60 FIESTA 1.25 PETROL ZETEC, 5dr, vision blue met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, front fogs, heated front screen, alloys, a/c, PAS, r/CD, ABS, ESP, 5 airbags, one owner, FSH, low mileage 24,532

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05 55 KA COLLECTION 1.3 PETROL, tonic blue met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, a/c, c/l, PAS, a/b, r/CD, LOW INSURANCE GROUP, 31,779 miles

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10 60 KA EDGE 1.2 PETROL, 3dr, crystal white/gry, 5 spd, a/c, e/w&m, c/l, PAS, r/CD, 2 airbags, ABS, low mileage, one local owner from new, FSH, £30RFL per year, 23,947 miles

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13 63 KA EDGE 1.2 PETROL, 3dr, sunrise/grey, 5 spd, PAS, a/c, immobiliser, r/CD, 2 airbags, e/w, remote locking, pre-registered, delivery mileage only 10, £30R FL per year

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11 60 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL SPORT, 5dr, frozen white/grey titanium, sat nav, Bluetooth, USB, rear park sensors, a/c, alloys, HFS, auto wipers & headlamps, front fogs, e/front windows & mirrors, ABS, 6 airbags, one owner, FSH, 33,500 miles

£8,995

08 08 FOCUS STYLE 1.6 PETROL 100PS STYLE, 5 dr, ocean blue met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, PAS, r/CD, a/c, HFS, front fogs, alloys, 6 airbags, ABS, ESP, low mileage, FSH, 35,959 miles

£6,995

11 11 C MAX 1.6 PETROL 125PS TITANIUM, micastone met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, heated windscreen, PAS, auto lights & wipers, ABS, ESP, convenience pack includes park assist & folding mirrors, global closing, alloys, very low mileage 5,500 miles, one owner, FSH

£12,595

10 10 C MAX 1.8 TDCI DIESEL ZETEC 5 SPD, moondust silver/grey, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, heated windscreen, PAS, a/c, front fogs, 6 airbags, alloys, ABS, ESP, front & rear park sensors, one owner from new, FSH, low mileage 20,325 miles

£8,995

59 10 FOCUS 1.6 TDCI TITANIUM, 5dr, vision blue met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, HFS, a/c, auto headlights & wipers, PAS, DAB radio CD, ABS, ESP, alloys, rear park sensors, 6 airbags, cruise control, titanium alloys heated seats, one owner, FSH, 38,655

£8,995

11 11 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 LTD 3 DR, White/ gloss black roof & grey trim, 5 spd, Black Alloys, Tailgate spoiler, Elec/ windows & mirrors, radio cd, power steering, air con, 2 airbags, ABS, 39968,

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10 60 FOCUS TITANIUM 2.0 TDCI DIESEL POWERSHIFT 6 SPEED AUTO, chill met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, climate/cruise control, ABS, ESP, auto lights & rain sensing wipers, rear park sensors, front fogs, alloys, 6 airbags, one owner from new, FSH, very low mileage 7,334 miles

£11,895

58 09 KUGA TITANIUM 2.0 TDCI 4WD, moondust silver met/grey, 6 spd, 17" alloys, e/w&m, Sony DAB radio CD, c/l, cruise control, heated screen, front fogs, a/c, FSH, 34,429 miles

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08 08 FUSION STYLE 1.4 PETROL SEMI AUTO CLIMATE, 5dr, sea grey met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, HFS, a/c, r/CD, PAS, 2 airbags, front fogs, ABS, service history, one owner from new, 36,900 miles

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FIESTA

10 60 FIESTA 1.25 PETROL ZETEC, 5dr, ink blue met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, front fogs, HFS, a/c, PAS, ABS, ESP, r/CD, 5 airbags, alloys, one owner, FSH, exceptionally low mileage 3,000, DUE IN SOON £8,995

10 60 FIESTA 1.25 PETROL ZETEC, 5dr, vision blue met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, front fogs, heated front screen, alloys, a/c, PAS, r/CD, ABS, ESP, 5 airbags, one owner, FSH, low mileage 24,532 ..... £8,395

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10 60 FIESTA TITANIUM 1.4 PETROL 96PS, 5dr, ink blue met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, front fogs, cruise control, 5 airbags, alloys, radio/CD, ABS, ESP, PAS, climate, one owner from new, low mileage 15,000 miles, FSH. £9,591

11 61 FIESTA 1.6 TDCI 95PS ZETEC S DIESEL, 3dr, panther black met/grey, 5spd, e/w&m, r/CD, alloys, a/c, HFS, ABS, ESP, c/l, 5 a/b, PAS, B'tooth, FSH, 1 owner from new, low mileage 12,200, £20 RFL per year .. WAS £9,995 NOW £9.495 *SAVING £500*

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07 07 FUSION 1.4 PETROL ZETEC CLIMATE, 5 dr, tango red met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, HFS, a/c, r/CD, PAS, 2 airbags, front fogs, ABS, FSH, very low mileage 25,000 ..... £4,595

08 08 FUSION STYLE 1.4 PETROL SEMI AUTO CLIMATE, 5dr, sea grey met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, HFS, a/c, r/CD, PAS, 2 airbags, front fogs, ABS, service history, one owner from new, 36,900 miles £4,995

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11 11 C MAX 1.6 PETROL 125PS TITANIUM, micastone met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, heated windscreen, PAS, auto lights & wipers, ABS, ESP, convenience pack includes park assist & folding mirrors, global closing, alloys, very low mileage 5,500 miles, one owner, FSH £12,595

13 13 B MAX ZETEC 1.0 ECOBOOST 125PS, 5 dr, midnight sky/grey, 5 spd, City pack, e/w&m, Ford Sync, power folding mirrors, rear park sensors, HFS, ABS, multiple airbags, alloys, ex-demonstrator, low mileage 4,500 miles, RFL £30 per year £15,995

10 10 C MAX 1.8 TDCI DIESEL ZETEC 5 SPD, moondust silver/grey, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, heated screen, PAS, a/c, front fogs, 6 airbags, alloys, ABS, ESP, front & rear park sensors, one owner from new, FSH, low mileage 20,325 miles £8,995

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10 60 KA ZETEC 1.2 PETROL, 3dr, blush met/grey, 5 spd, climate con, e/w&m, c/l, HFS, PAS, r/CD, alloys, ABS, 2 airbags, front fogs, low mileage, 2 owners from new, 26,725 miles, FSH £7,295

13 63 KA EDGE 1.2 PETROL, 3dr, sunrise/grey, 5 spd, PAS, a/c, immobiliser, r/CD, 2 airbags, e/w, remote locking, pre-registered, delivery mileage only 10 miles, £30R FL per year £8,495

10 60 KA EDGE 1.2 PETROL, 3dr, crystal white/gry, 5 spd, a/c, e/w&m, c/l, PAS, r/CD, 2 airbags, ABS, low mileage, one local owner from new, FSH, £30RFL per year, 23,947 ..... £5,995

11 61 KA STUDIO 1.2 PETROL, 3dr, crystal white/grey, 5 spd, PAS, r/CD, 2 airbags, ABS, JULIANS SUPPLIED, ONE OWNER FROM NEW, 20,629 miles. £5,595

05 55 KA COLLECTION 1.3 PETROL, tonic blue met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, a/c, c/l, PAS, a/b, r/CD, LOW INSURANCE GROUP, 31,779 miles £2,995

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58 09 KUGA TITANIUM 2.0 TDCI 4WD, moondust silver met/grey, 6 spd, 17" alloys, e/w&m, Sony DAB radio CD, c/l, cruise control, heated screen, front fogs, a/c, FSH, 34,429 miles £14,995

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10 60 FOCUS TITANIUM ESTATE 1.6 TDCI DEISEL, panther black met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, climate & cruise control, rear park sensors, alloys, auto lights & rain sensing wipers, front fogs, 6 airbags, heated seats, one owner from new, FSH, RFL for 12 months only £30 per year, 23,500 miles. £10,595

10 60 FOCUS TITANIUM 2.0 TDCI DIESEL POWERSHIFT 6 SPEED AUTO, chill met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, climate/cruise control, ABS, ESP, auto lights & rain sensing wipers, rear park sensors, front fogs, alloys, 6 airbags, one owner from new, FSH, very low mileage 7,334 miles £11,895

11 60 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL SPORT, 5dr, frozen white/grey titanium, sat nav, Bluetooth, USB, rear park sensors, a/c, alloys, HFS, auto wipers & headlamps, front fogs, e/front windows & mirrors, ABS, 6 airbags, one owner, FSH, 33,500 miles. £8,995

10 10 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL TITANIUM, 5dr, chilli met/grey, 5 spd, e/w & m, a/c, HFS, auto h'lights & wipers, PAS, power start button, key less entry, DAB r/CD, rear park sensors, cruise, heated seats, 6 airbags, ABS, one owner, FSH, low mileage 23,758 ..... £8,995

59 10 FOCUS 1.6 TDCI TITANIUM, 5dr, vision blue met/grey, 5 spd, e/w & m, HFS, a/c, auto headlights & wipers, PAS, DAB radio CD, ABS, ESP, alloys, rear park sensors, 6 airbags, cruise control, titanium alloys heated seats, one owner, FSH, 38,655 ..... £8,995

08 08 FOCUS STYLE 1.6 PETROL 100PS STYLE, 5 dr, ocean blue met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, PAS, r/CD, a/c, HFS, front fogs, alloys, 6 airbags, ABS, ESP, low mileage, FSH, 35,959 miles. £6,995

MONDEO

10 60 MONDEO TITANIUM 2.0 PETROL 1.4PS TITANIUM, 5spd, 5 dr, chill met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, DAB radio CD, heated windscreen, climate control, front fogs, alloys, ABS, ESP, cruise, park sensors, service, one owner from new, 35,500 miles. £9,495

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11 60 SKODA YETI 1.2 TSI PETROL SE STATION WAGON, 5dr, silver met/grey, 6 spd, low mileage, service history, DUE IN SOON ..... POA

11 11 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 LTD 3 DR, White with gloss black roof & grey trim, 5 speed, Black Alloys, Tailgate spoiler, Electric windows & mirrors, Radio CD, Power steering, Air Con, 2 Airbags, ABS, 39,968, ONE OWNER FROM NEW, SERVICE HISTORY. . £7,995

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excluding Ampera): Urban: 14.4(19.6)- 67.3 (4.2), Extra urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 20.6 (13.7) - 80.7 (3.5). CO2 emissions: 324 - 94g/km. Fuel regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors.

*0% is not available on Expression, ES, Vauxhall Tech Line models, Ampera or VXR8. Customer saving includes a Finance Deposit Allowance. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantee or Indemnity may be required. Finance supplied by either Vauxhall Motor Finance RH1 1SR or Vauxhall Finance, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Prices correct at time of print. We can introduce you to a limited number of finance providers, commission may be received. Offer applies to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only excluding B2B). All other customers are excluded. Offer available on orders or registrations on or before 31st October 2013. Term can be from 24 – 60 months. Corsa LE list price £14,650, total amount payable £12,939. Corsa Black Edition List price £15,995, total amount payable £12,939. Astra Energy List price £18,880, total amount payable £15,939. **Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply. Pictures for illustration purposes only. Zafira and Corsa Sting don't qualify for 5 years 0% finance. First year insurance offer available on Corsa (excluding Expression, S, VXR, Sting). The offer will cover the full premium (motor policy only) for drivers aged between 21-75 (Corsa). Drivers must have held a valid full UK licence for a minimum of 1 year. Only available through Vauxhall Insurance. Policies are underwritten by Ageas Insurance Ltd. Other insurance specific terms and conditions apply.

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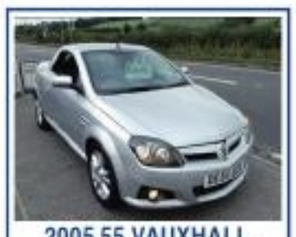

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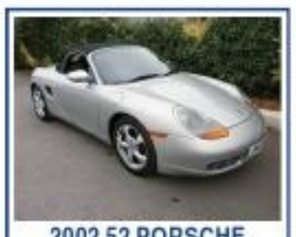

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WINTER SERVICE & CHECK

Snow, fog, ice and rain are just a few of the dangers Winter can spring upon the motorist and to avoid getting caught out there is essential preparation to be done.

Most road safety organisations advise having your car serviced before Winter. Julians are able to help you with this and are offering a tailored interim Winter service including an oil and filter change, check wiper blades, tyres, lights, coolant and battery condition, in other words all the Winter maintenance essentials.

Prices from **£89.00**

Oil & Filter change

The life of your engine depends on the oil you put in it. The engine oil minimises friction of the moving metal parts and helps dissipate the heat generated. It is essential to change your oil on a regular basis. We will use quality semi synthetic oil.

Check wiper blades

According to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, during Winter 'the biggest single danger is being unable to see properly' so visibility is key. Worn or split wiper blades may cause them to leave smears and greasy marks on the windscreen and affect visibility, so to avoid these hazards we will replace your front wiper blades where applicable.

Check battery condition

During the Winter flat batteries are consistently the number one reason for breakdown, so during our Winter Service, we check it out, clean the terminals and top up the fluids to ensure it is ready for the perils of Winter.

Check the condition & pressures of tyres

The tread depth, tyre condition and pressure of your tyres are essential items that should be checked as is vitally important that your tyres grip the road properly to reduce the risk of skidding and aquaplaning in Wintery conditions. Julians fully endorse the guidelines set by the Tyre Industry Council, which state that tyres should be considered for changing when the tread depth remaining reaches approximately 3mm, at which depth they are 78% worn.

Check operation & condition of lights

Lights should be checked to ensure they are working properly. It is important to make sure lights are free from dirt; this includes your headlights, fog lights and indicators, so we will thoroughly check the operation and condition of your lights to ensure they are working efficiently

Check & top up all under bonnet fluid levels

We check all under bonnet fluids levels.

Check and top up brake, clutch and washer fluid

Check antifreeze content and advise*

Visual Safety Check

As part of our Duty of Care to you, we will carry out a visual safety check of your vehicle, we will inform you of the condition of your vehicle and what remedial work, if any, need to be done and on what timescale.

Careful driving and a well prepared vehicle should make Winter a safer experience for you and your family.

* Antifreeze extra if required

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2001	MERCEDES C200 KOMPRESSOR 2.0, E/W, MoT & Tax	£2,495
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2004	DAEWOO MATIZ, MoT & Tax	£2,295
2004	FORD MONDEO 2.0 DIESEL, new MoT & Tax, e/w, PAS, a/c, c/l.	£1,995
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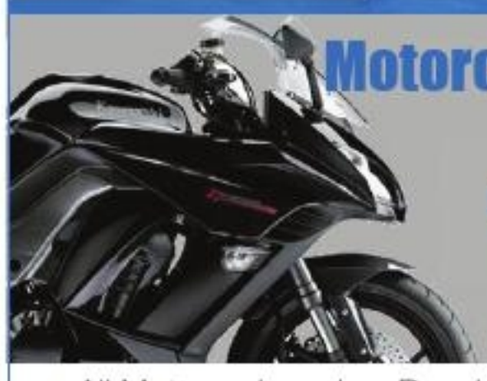

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HOMEBASE round mirror, in white frame 32cm diameter, £4, 01865 864387

BMW, E36 10 spoke wheels (2) bought for £49 each, Offers, 01993 778205

BMW, E36 N reg in show condition compact exhaust manifold will fit 318is and 318Ti paid £40, Offers, 01993 778205

TRAMPOLINE, 8 foot diameter, £20, 01235524816

REAR lens, E46 BMW W reg boot lights (saloon) paid £32 excellent condition, Offers, 01993 778205

WINTER coat, ladies full length royal blue £10 also jackets, tops size 18 all in good condition, £1-5, 01865 770728

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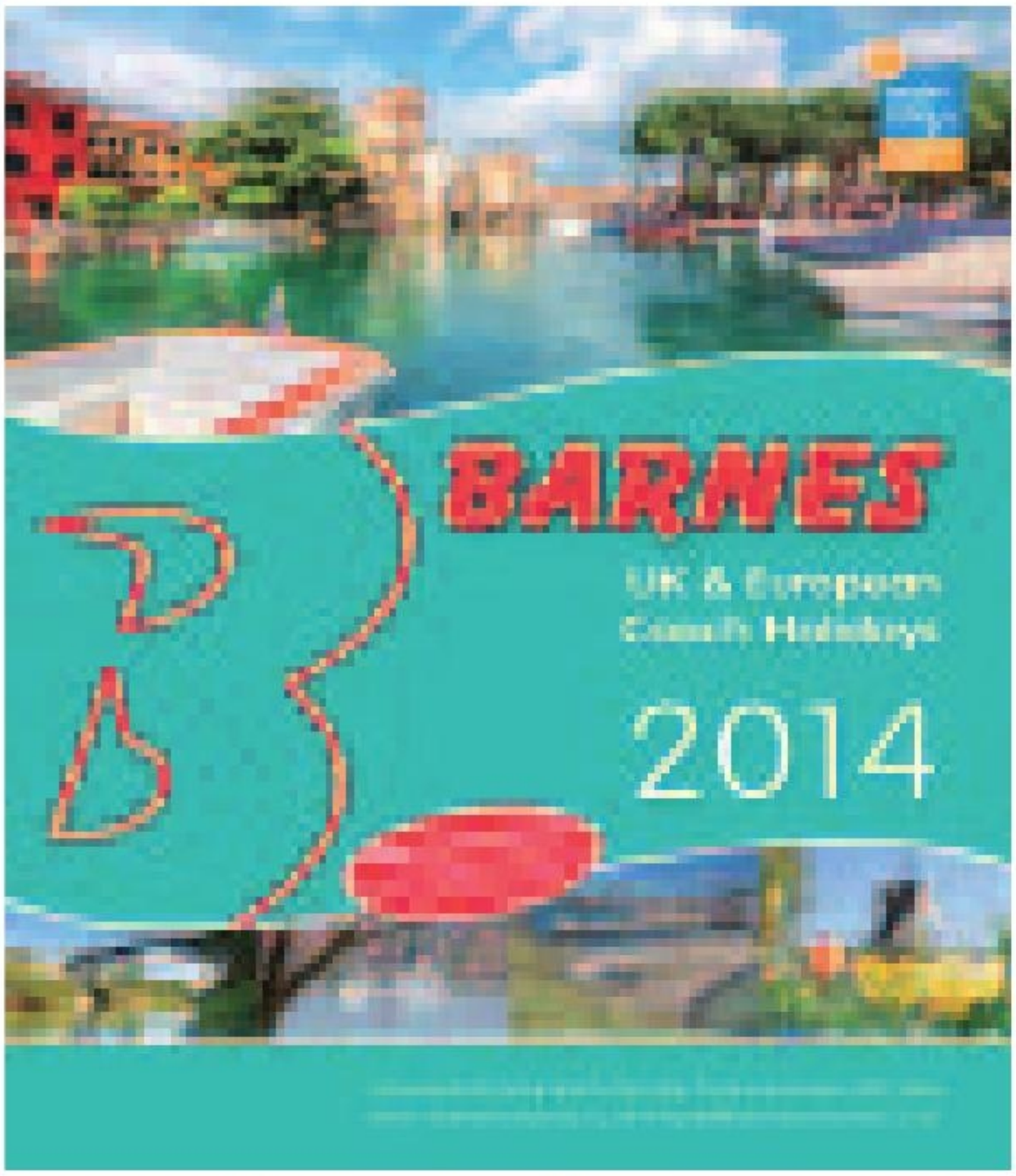

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U's are left frustrated by Newport, but stay top

• *James Constable is unhappy with former teammate Harry Worley after Ryan Williams was sized down by the ex-U's defender (Picture by Steve Daniels)*

OXFORD United maintained their status as League Two leaders on Tuesday night despite a frustrating goalless draw at home to Newport County.

Chris Wilder's men have taken 33 points from 18 games so far this season and a superior goal difference keeps them above second-placed Chesterfield ahead of this weekend's fixtures.

However, United could have gone two points clear at the top had they converted two gilt-edged chances inside the first 10 minutes.

By Jack Johnson
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Danny Rose's freekick ricocheted off the shins of James Constable and fell into the path of Michael Raynes but the defender put the ball wide from six yards.

Just a minute later, Ryan Williams forced a mistake from Adedeji Oshilaja and Constable was through on goal but the striker stumbled as he entered the area and Lenny Pidgeley easily saved his tame effort.

Newport went close with five minutes remaining as Christian Jolley's effort skimmed the top of the bar.

Wilder said: "You need to score when the chances appear.

"It was a frustrating night for us and a stop-start game.

"We tried, we competed, but we couldn't really get flowing.

"But we had to be careful because they chucked a lot of long throws into our box.

"We were just lacking a touch of quality going forward. It was a difficult night for our front players because we could never get any momentum."

The United boss was also left frustrated with referee Darren Sheldrake's management of the game.

"He must be tired after the amount of puff he has had to blow into that whistle because it was just continuous," Wilder said.

"The referee is here to manage the game for the players, for the staff and most importantly the supporters and I don't think he did that very well."

This Saturday United travel to fifth-placed Fleetwood Town.

Wantage in rare defeat

WANTAGE Town missed out on going top of the Hellenic Premier Division on Monday night, suffering a 2-1 defeat to Binfield.

The defeat was only their second of the season and keeps them a point behind current league leaders Reading Town.

However, the Alfredians have six games in hand over Reading who were beaten 3-0 at home by Oxford City Nomads on Tuesday.

Lewis Gabbidon, Mark Janes and Josh Dutton-Black were on the scoresheet for Chris Fontaine's side who are currently eighth in the table.

Abingdon Town's woes at the bottom of the Hellenic table continued despite the appointment of Paul Davis as manager.

The Abbots were thrashed 10-2 by Wantage last Saturday and suffered a 4-1 defeat at home to Kidlington during midweek.

This weekend they face Burnham in the second round of the Bluefin Sports Challenge Cup.

Meanwhile, Wantage and Nomads are in league action as they play Ardley United and Flackwell Heath respectively.

Quins edge to Grove victory

OXFORD Harlequins maintained their impressive unbeaten run in the South West 1 East with a narrow 21-17 victory over Grove.

A depleted Quins side were pushed all the way by an under strength Grove but they ultimately earned their eleventh win of the season.

They are now 11 points clear of second-placed Towcestrians at the top of the table with 50 points.

Grove earned a losing bonus point for their efforts at North Hinksey and are eighth in the table with 24 points.

In the SSE National League 2 South, Chinnor were beaten 36-28 at home to Southend.

They were denied a losing bonus point by a late Marcus Bloomburg try for Southend which was converted by Bradley Burr.

Chinnor are currently ninth in the league table.

This weekend, they face London Irish Wild Geese while Harlequins travel to Maidenhead and Grove welcome Reading.

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Trio re-sign for Oxford Rugby League

OXFORD Rugby League have re-signed three players for next year's Kingstone Press Championship 1 campaign.

Half-back pairing Tommy Connick and Jimmy Rowland signed new contracts with the club on Monday while prop Alex Wright re-signed yesterday.

Connick made 16 appearances for Oxford during this year's campaign while Rowland joined from Warrington Wolves towards the end of the season.

Coach Tony Benson said of Rowland: "He's only 19, but he is improving with every game. He was really good in his last game with us and I am looking forward to seeing him develop."

Meanwhile, Wright is targeting a place in the first team after putting pen to paper.

"I am incredibly excited at starting my second year at Oxford," he said. "My aims for the season are to break into the match day squad and become a key member of the team."

• *Jimmy Rowland has re-signed for Oxford Rugby League*

Sport Bites

Stars lose out

OXFORD City Stars suffered a 5-3 defeat at league leaders Slough Jets last Sunday.

This weekend they will be looking to make amends for their third defeat of the season as they take on Swindon Wildcats 2 in the National Ice Hockey League South 2 Cup.

Stars are currently third in the National Ice Hockey League South 2.

Hawks win

DAVE Cresswell and Steve Kelly both scored twice as Oxford Hawks Men's 1s beat Milton Keynes Men's 1s 6-2.

Philip Hargreaves and Richard Barlow were also on the scoresheet as Hawks recorded their fourth win of the season.

They are currently sixth in the Premier Division 1 and face Sevenoaks Men's 1s on Saturday.

Missed cut

ABINGDON golfer Eddie Pepperell missed the cut in last weekend's South African Open Championship in Ekurhuleni.

Two rounds of 73 left the 22-year-old on two-over-par, missing the cut by four shots.

Pepperell is currently 237th in the world rankings.

Out-of-form City put to the sword by Johnson

OXFORD City's woes in the Skrill North continued last weekend as they suffered a 2-0 defeat to Guiseley.

Alex Johnson's first-half brace condemned Mike Ford's men to their seventh defeat of the season, leaving City 18th in the league table, just two points above bottom side Gloucester City.

Last Saturday Gavin Rothery shot wide early on and after a quarter of an hour it was 1-0 as Johnson headed home Wayne Brooksby's cross.

Kayden Jackson headed wide as City searched for an equaliser before Mike Pook's blistering volley rebounded off the unprepared keeper and bounced to safety.

However, Johnson made it 2-0 on 25 minutes, ultimately putting the game to bed, while City stopper Victor Francoz pulled off two impressive saves in the second half to prevent Guiseley adding to their tally.

City will look to put an end to their three-game winless run in all competitions as they welcome Vauxhall Motors to Court Place Farm this Saturday.

ABINGDON Guardian Sport

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More Sport inside: Rugby: Trio re-sign for Oxford Rugby League | Golf: Pepperell misses the cut

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United confident new management team can turn things around

ABINGDON United have appointed Andy Zoldan, Ellis Langford and Andy Wallbridge as their new management team.

The former Wantage Town trio, who have experienced success before at Hellenic Premier Division level, took charge for the first time against Cheltenham Saracens last night.

Zoldan has been named as manager while Langford and Wallbridge, who resigned as manager of Division One South & West side Didcot Town last month, will be his assistants.

Club secretary John Blackmore says the trio tick all the right boxes.

"They are local, have all got experience, especially at Hellenic League level, so in the end we decided to give them a crack," Mr Blackmore said.

By **Jack Johnson**
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"Everybody knows that we decided to back out of the Southern League and start again by re-building. We wanted to make sure the right appointment came along so that in the long term we could get out of the trouble we are in and start rebuilding, as we wanted to do at the beginning of the season.

"They are all experienced people, they know bits about the game, they all have good points and together we are pretty confident they can turn our fortunes around."

Before last night's game at Cheltenham, United were second from bottom in the Hellenic Premier Division with only nine points.

Mr Blackmore added: "The first expectation must be that we stay in the Hellenic Premier Division.

"There is no point in saying we want to do this and we want to do that, this we have to do.

"Once they have been together for a longer period of time they will hopefully start rebuilding the team, and then after that they have got a few years to be able to get us back in the Southern League."

The trio watched on as United were beaten 3-0 at home by Binfield last Saturday and Mr Blackmore said they wanted to take the reins as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, United have been drawn against league leaders Reading Town in the semi final of the Berks and Bucks FA Senior Trophy.

Abingdon United	**0**
Binfield	**3**

• *Graham Edney, who took temporary charge alongside Scott Davis and Gareth Tucker, flicks the ball on during the defeat to Binfield last Saturday (Picture by Chris Janes)*

U's are held by Newport, but remain leaders

OXFORD United head into this Saturday's game against Fleetwood Town as League Two's pacesetters.

Chris Wilder's men were held to a frustrating 0-0 draw at home to Newport County on Tuesday night but a superior goal difference keeps them top.

See inside sport for full story.

• *James Constable tries to escape the attentions of Adedeji Oshilaja and Ismail Yakubu (Picture by Steve Daniels)*

Oxford United	**0**
Newport County	**0**

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Published by Taylor Newspapers Ltd, Newspaper House, 4A Hawksworth, Didcot, Oxfordshire OX11 7HR.
Telephone 01235 511700 (Head Office).
Printed by Iliffe Print Cambridge, Milton, Cambridge CB24 6PP